

See

Beautiful 87-year-old
Laura Grant



B1

Explore the Newark Bears
In Sports B8 &
the Newark Eagles

Miles Davis and John
Coltrane come to life
through new release
In Arts B4

Metro
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Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1983

Nation of Islam named 'hate' group

By Rasoul Dennis

WASHINGTON, D.C. (NNPA)—The Alabama-based anti-hate watchdog group known as the Southern Poverty Law Center has deemed the Nation of Islam a hate group and lists the religious-based black nationalist group as such on its web site, the NNPA has learned.



Minister Louis Farrakhan
File photo

In a special interview with the NNPA News Service, Minister Benjamin Muhammad, formerly Rev. Ben Chavis, denounced the listing by the SPLC of the NOI as unfounded and irrelevant to the NOI's mission that the Nation of Islam has always maintained.

"In order to have any status as a hate group one would think that there would be some hate-based action from members within that group," he said in a visit to the NNPA headquarters last Thursday (April 27). "No member of the Nation of Islam has ever been arrested or detained for any act of hate. In fact, the SPLC never contacted the Nation of Islam with any mention of this or any inquiry or for an interview with us."

The minister went on to say that the SPLC move may actually bolster NOI support among Black communities.

"Their listing of us as a hate group is ridiculous," Muhammad said. "The impact of their study will have no bearing—especially with the communities that we have a responsibility to. Who is the SPLC anyway? Where do they get their support?"

The SPLC, which lists groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, the German American Nationalist and the Knights of Freedom as hate groups, explained its rationale for determining an organization's hate status is ideology based. The NOI has made the list for the second consecutive year.

Mark Potok, editor of the center's Intelligence Report, which released the study, said "The decision was made internally. It is criteria for calling an organization a hate group is the belief 'that by virtue of membership in a [different racial or other] class, you are somehow less than them,'" he said.

He said the choice—"the final straw"—came after both an internal debate and a 1997 Farrakhan appearance on NBC-TV's "Meet The Press." Farrakhan refused to repudiate NOI founder Elijah Muhammad's teachings on the program, according to the center spokesperson.

Potok said there was little response last year to its decision. "I don't think it surprised many people at all," he said.

However, some key figures in the African American community are indeed surprised with the announcement and many were not aware of the center's listing.

See NOI, page A8

Orange police face charges in Faison case



The family of Earl Faison speaks to supporters at a recent rally.

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Civil rights charges are to be returned this month against Orange police officers stemming from the death of a man arrested amid efforts to find the killer of one of their colleagues, according to a published report Tuesday.

Officers beat, robbed and shot pepper spray directly into the mouth and nose of Earl Faison, federal investigators learned from a patrolman, The Star-Ledger of Newark reported.

Two other patrolmen have since corroborated portions of his story, the newspaper said.

The U.S. attorney's office in Newark has questioned officers before a grand jury. Citing Justice Department policy, office spokesman Michael Drewinski declined Tuesday to comment on the article.

Faison, 27, of East Orange, was arrested April 11, 1999, three days after Orange Police Officer Joyce Carnegie was shot and killed while approaching a robbery suspect on a sidewalk.

Officially, Orange police said Faison, who had asthma, resisted arrest, was sub-

dued with pepper spray and later collapsed and died. Police said he dropped his gun, a 9mm handgun loaded with six hollow point bullets, while struggling on the sidewalk with the arresting officer, Sgt. Brian David.

The aspiring rap artist was one of four men detained following the shooting, in which the killer was described as a black male with a shaved head.

The fourth, Condell Woodson, confessed to the crime and is serving a life prison sentence with no chance of parole.

The state medical examiner determined Faison suffered "a sudden death due to acute exacerbation of bronchial asthma while in police custody." The autopsy, dated Dec. 9, said his "manner of death" could not be determined because no final police report on the incident was available.

Faison's survivors, which include four children, have sued the Orange Police Department and Essex County over his death, charging racism and brutality. They commissioned an independent autopsy, which has not been released.

Federal investigators interviewed all 114 employees of the Orange Police Department, including civilian dispatchers and record clerks, The Star-Ledger said.

Citing unnamed sources, the newspaper said the investigators got a break over the summer, when a patrolman was caught in a lie by the testimony of a fellow cop.

After being recalled before the grand jury, the officer recanted his earlier testimony and implicated fellow officers in Faison's death, the sources said.

According to sources, the officer said that up to nine officers were involved in the arrest, not three, as police claimed. At the arrest scene, Faison was punched in the head after he was handcuffed and thrown in the back of a patrol car.

At headquarters, one officer took cash from Faison and a second shot pepper spray into his mouth and nose, after which he stopped breathing, the patrolman said.

Portions of this account were

see FAISON page A8

Million Mom March protests gun violence

NEWARK—Outraged by gun violence that has killed or wounded children, including the Washington D.C. Zoo shootings, thousands of mothers are organizing the Million Mom March aimed at pressuring Congress to enact tougher controls on firearms. On May 14—Mother's Day—mothers and "honorary moms" from across the United States will march in Washington D.C. to either celebrate the passage by Congress of sensible gun legislation or to protest bipartisan ineptitude. This national campaign brings mothers, families, and "hon-

gun control legislation. President Clinton is pushing a gun control agenda including background checks at gun shows, child safety locks, and licensing for gun owners. Locally, Mayor Sharpe James has again announced his ambitious gun buyback program in Newark, designed to save lives in Newark. The Million Mom March is intended to make gun policy an issue in the 2000 election.

Dr. E. Asyah Aquil, a Newark chiropractor and activist, came upon a website of MMM on April 25 while surfing the net. She was moved by the mission and purpose of the MMM and decided to organize a group of her friends who had sons and a nephew killed by illegal hand guns to attend the MMM. The news of the shooting death of a 13-year-old, Al Malik Douglas, by a 16-year-old cousin as reported on April 16, fueled Dr. Aquil's mission to organize the bus to the MMM. The group has also acquired funding from Barbara Lee Family Foundation, which gave the march \$200,000.

The Million Mom
March is intended
to make gun
policy an issue in
the 2000 election.

orary moms" from communities across the country to join them in the National Mall, Washington D.C., or attend their local march to call on Congress to pass common sense

gun control legislation.

Why can't we all just buckle up?

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AFRICA NEWSWIRE)—Auto Industry Diversity Efforts, the nonprofit arm of On Wheels, Inc., has announced a national poster contest aimed at increasing awareness on the importance of using seat belts among African Americans.

Automobile accidents are the leading cause of death for African American children through age 14 and the second leading cause of death for ages 15-24, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

"Cars kill more of our youth than AIDS!" If Blacks are excited about entering and winning this contest, they are forced to think about car safety when they sit down to write.

The contest will run until the end of June. Winners will receive \$500 and publication of their work in African Americans On Wheels (AAOW), a national automotive magazine geared towards the Black community. There will be \$300 and \$200 prizes, respectively, for the runner-ups.

Poems will be judged by a committee of published poets,

writers and college professors on creativity and how well they highlight the importance of buckling up (Use statistics below. All winners will receive a free year's subscription to AAOW. Contestants must enter at AAOW's award winning web site - www.automag.com.

Efforts' National Safety campaign, "Why Can't We All Just Buckle Up" is jointly sponsored by NHTSA and Mitsubishi Motor Sales of America, Inc. (MMSA). The contest continues the drive to increase African American seat belt usage from 51% to 90%. Currently, seat belt usage among African Americans is more than 10% points below the national average of 70%.

"Much of this is due to the fact that people really don't believe they will be involved in a vehicular accident. We are much smarter than that. We must take the time to educate ourselves on the "calculated risks," says Kimmini Rawlins, the safety campaign director. Auto Industry Diversity Efforts' mission is to promote diversity by creating opportunities for African Americans in the auto industry through educational workshops and community events that foster

See SEAT BELT page A8

PNC Bank Arts Center showcases homogenized lineup



Exit signs leads to PNC Bank Arts Center in Holmdel.

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

Music, summer and fun go together like Gladys Knight and the Pips, Nancy Wilson and a saucy melody, Nat and Natalie. It's that time of the year when you can count on seeing your favorite musical heartthrob—no matter how old you are. However, if you're black and you have your heart set on catching some great acts this concert season, don't bother to venture down to the PNC Bank Arts Center, exit 116 on the Garden State Parkway.

The Arts Center, which is owned by the Highway Authority and with recent monetary vested interest in the venue by PNC Bank, together, has amassed a homogenized lineup of entertainment—and this is not to say its bad entertainment. The point is there are just no black entertainers headlining any of the shows this season at the Arts Center, with the excep-

tion of R.B. King, who closes out the season on Sept. 15.

Formerly known as the Garden State Arts Center, the venue has never in its 30-year history been known to host a wide-body of black talent. But you could count on seeing a few top-notch performers such as Gladys, even Janet Jackson appeared at the amphitheater one year, Al Jarreau, George Benson, rap concerts, and Chaka Khan, just to name a few.

The best they could come up with this year is, get this, The Back Boys and the Four Tops being promoted. Then there's Carlos Santana, who although is not black has a similar experience. He considers himself a kid from the ghetto. Santana is hot off the success of the "Supernatural" album. Jackson garnered him eight Grammys. This show scheduled for Aug. 5

sold-out a long time ago. Opening for Santana is Macy Gray, who is black and is a newcomer in her rightful place as an opening act. Gray louts a new wave sound mixing funk, soul, and R&B, which suits those who dare to go beyond traditional. Blaque, the teeny-bopper group, protégé of TLC is appearing on the "Music and More Festival" on Aug. 25. And that's black entertainment 2000 at the PNC Arts Center.

It's hard to fathom that someone didn't notice the blackout. The trend continues. Several attempts were made to reach the public relations department of the Arts Center but there was no response.

There are many black faces that sit behind the steering wheels of cars travelling on the Garden State Parkway. And black families pay taxes in the state of New Jersey, so if the New Jersey Highway Authority is as patriotic as the state, it is a matter that certainly needs to be addressed at the state level.

File photo

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

CALDWELL - The Office of the County Clerk will be held at Town Hall at 8:30 a.m. For further information, call (973) 621-4915.

THURSDAY, MAY 11

TRENTON - The War Memorial Theater hosts "Kids in Concert," at 7:30 p.m. For further information, call (973) 624-1815 ext. 22.

MONTCLAIR - The Office of the County Clerk will be at the Municipal Building at 6:30 p.m. For further information, call (973) 621-4915.

MONTCLAIR - The Office of the County Clerk will be at the Municipal Building at 8:30 a.m. For further information, call (973) 621-4915.

FRIDAY, MAY 12

ASBURY PARK - Weird Al premieres at the Paramount Theatre hosts a gospel concert. For more information, call (732) 775-2100.

WESTFIELD - The Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church will hold its annual fundraiser/rummage sale at 10 a.m. For further information, call (908) 233-8533.

SATURDAY, MAY 13

NEW BRUNSWICK - The Paramount Theatre hosts a gospel concert. For more information, call (732) 775-2100.

PLAINFIELD - New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District hosts a candidates' forum at 2 p.m. For further information, call (908) 755-5846.

MONDAY, MAY 15

LIVINGSTON - The Office of the County Clerk will be at Town Hall at 2 p.m. For further information, call (973) 621-4915.

TUESDAY, MAY 16

WEST ORANGE - The Office of the County Clerk will be at Town Hall at 1:30 p.m. For further information, call (973) 621-4915.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

MAPLEWOOD - The Office of the County Clerk will be at Town Hall at 8:30 a.m. For further information, call (973) 621-4915.

THURSDAY, MAY 18

MONTCLAIR - The Office of the County Clerk will be at the municipal building at 8:30 a.m. For further information, call (973) 621-4915.

SATURDAY, MAY 20

NEWARK - The Garden State Ballet School holds its summer scholarship tryouts. For further information, call (973) 623-1033.

SOMERSET - Somerset County Coalition on Affordable Housing hosts a first time home buyer's Seminar. For more information, call (908) 704-8901, or (732) 560-1700. Ext. 224.

GLEN RIDGE - The Office of the County Clerk will be at the public library at 9:30 a.m. For further information, call (973) 621-4915.

SUNDAY, MAY 21

SKILLMAN - The Crawford House presents its 7th Annual Bike Race, at 7:30 a.m. For further information, call (908) 874-5153.

MONDAY, MAY 22

MILLBURN - The Office of the County Clerk will be at the Police Department at 1 p.m. For further information, call (973) 621-4915.

TUESDAY, MAY 23

BELLEVILLE - The Office of the County Clerk will be at the public library at 6:30 p.m. For further information, call (973) 621-4915.

THURSDAY, MAY 25

NEWARK - The New Jersey Institute for School Innovation hosts a lecture on early childhood education. For further information, call (973) 621-6631.

SATURDAY, MAY 27

JERSEY CITY - The Friends of Music and Art of Hudson County is accepting applications for their music competition. For further information, call (201) 983-1216.

TUESDAY, MAY 30

JERSEY CITY - The Women's Center of New Jersey City University features a discussion on women's self-esteem, at 4:30 p.m. For further information, call (201) 200-0189.

Miller & Son Associates honored for 40th anniversary in business



Newark's Mayor Sharpe James (center) recently issued a proclamation honoring M. Miller & Son Associates, Inc., a licensed public adjusting firm based in Hillsdale, New Jersey, commemorating the firm's 40th anniversary in business. Founded in 1960 in Newark, the company specializes in representation of the policyholder and claims preparation following all types of property loss or damage as a result of fire, floods and other disasters.

Board of Freeholders remembers Dr. Leola Grant Hayes of Leonia



The Board of Chosen Freeholders recently passed a resolution to posthumously honor Dr. Leola Grant Hayes, a resident of Leonia. Dr. Hayes joined the faculty of the former Paterson State College of New Jersey, now known as William Paterson University, and was one of the first African-American women to become tenured. A ceremonial resolution was presented to her husband at the board's public meeting. Pictured are (l to r): Freeholder Chairman Anthony J. Cassano, Spurgeon S. Hayes and Freeholder J. William Van Dyke.

Open House at NJCU



At "Spring Open House", Dr. Carlos Hernandez (right), president of New Jersey City University, greeted Jersey City residents (from the right): Shandamay Javier, Michael Palacio, and Juliet Gallego. NJCU's day-long program featured an "Information Fair" on the University's academic and non-academic programs and campus tours.

Westfield Symphony Orchestra performs for Union County students



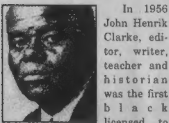
Brevity was the style of the day as about 1,250 fourth and fifth graders were welcomed to a concert by the Westfield Symphony Orchestra at the Union County Arts Center in Rahway. Joining students from eight school districts around the county for this special concert were Union County Freeholders Lewis Mingo, Jr. (left) and Chester Holmes (right). Dr. Frances Lobman, Union County Superintendent of Schools (center) was also on hand to see just how much the student enjoyed the remarkable mixture of classical music and a musical clown.



ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
1908-1972

In 1944 Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., was elected to Congress from Harlem, becoming the first black member of the House of Representatives from the East. He was one of the most flamboyant and controversial politicians of the twentieth century. In 1961, Powell was the first black to chair the powerful Education and Labor Committee.

JOHN HENRIK CLARKE
1915 - 1996



In 1956 John Henrik Clarke, editor, writer, teacher and historian was the first black licensed to teach African and African-American history in New York State public schools. He was best known as a critic, anthologist, and editor; he also wrote short stories and poetry. He was the co-founder of the Harlem Quarterly, and editor of Freedomways: A Quarterly Review of the Negro Freedom Movement.

Black Quotes



Dorothy I. Height

"When you're a black woman, you seldom get to do what you just want to do; you always do what you have to do."

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NATIONAL BRIEFS

Over \$100 Million announced to bridge digital divide

THE WHITE HOUSE — The Kaiser Family Foundation Committed to a Media Campaign to Motivate Young People to "Get Connected." Magie Johnson and Rebecca Lobo will star in the public service announcements that will air on 13 major networks. Black Entertainment Television will also produce and air public service announcements to encourage African-Americans to participate in digital economy.

'Geronimo' Pratt Settles Lawsuit Against FBI

LOS ANGELES — Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt, the former Black Panther who served 25 years in jail before his conviction was overturned in 1997, has settled a civil rights and false imprisonment lawsuit the city and FBI for \$4.5 million.

The Los Angeles Times reported the city will pay \$2.7 million, while the federal government has agreed to pay \$1.75 million. The city council will have to approve the city's share. Pratt, 53, was convicted in 1972 for the robbery and fatal shooting of Caroline Olsen, a schoolteacher. He always maintained his innocence, saying the FBI and police destroyed witness evidence proving he was in another city at the time of the shooting.

Pratt lives now in Morgan City, La., where he is trying to reunite with his wife and two children in a community center for youth.

Stockpact for black newspapers launched

WASHINGTON D.C. — The stock page comprised of Black-owned publicly traded companies will be available to members of the National Newspapers Publishers Association, a Washington, D.C.-based 60-year-old federation of 200 Black community newspapers through the media service web page.

Wallst-intheblack.com is providing the nation's first stock-page-comprised of the world's Black-owned publicly traded companies to the members of National Newspaper Publishers Association via the npna.org web site. The stock page is designed with the anticipation of the US exchanges converting share prices from fractions to decimals. All non-domestic share prices are converted to US dollars and cents. The stock page will contain a user-friendly legend located at the bottom of the page.

COBI declares May National Investment Month

WINSTON-SALEM — The Coalition of Black Investors (COBI) announced it will kick off May as National Investment Month with a news conference and tour of The Nasdaq Stock Market's new MarketSite in the heart of New York City's Times Square.

During the kick off celebration COBI will also tour and attend an investment workshop at the American Stock Exchange (AMEX), the second-largest floor-based securities exchange in the US.

The National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD), the parent of Nasdaq and AMEX, hosts the kick off celebration.

"The May 1st celebration at the Nasdaq MarketSite and AMEX symbolizes an emerging African American focus on saving and investing. Through these and other education programs, COBI National Investment Month will heighten awareness and emphasize conscious saving and investing as a means to build wealth for our families, our communities and our future," said COBI founder, Duane Davis.

COBI activities for May include a student essay contest, an investment conference in Houston, Texas (May 19 and 20) and the month culminates with Pay Day, May 26th.

Buckle Up
It's the Law and
it saves lives

Study: race determines type of justice Americans receive

By PAUL SHEPARD
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Civil rights advocates said Thursday they hope a new report indicating massive racial inequities in the justice system will ignite a national dialogue and push lawmakers to action.

"This isn't just about a group of civil rights folks crying about injustice. This is about saving our justice system," said Raul Yzaguirre, president of the National Council of La Raza.

The report, "Justice on Trial: Racial Disparities in the American Criminal Justice System," was released by the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, a Washington, D.C.-based civil rights coalition celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Among the findings in the 90-page report.

- Nearly 74 percent of all those deported by the Immigration and Naturalization Service are of Mexican origin even though Mexicans are less than 10 percent of the population in the United States, according to the U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization Service figures.

- Hispanics are likely to be released in only 26 percent of their cases while non-Hispanics are likely to be released before trial in 66 percent of their cases, according to the U.S. Bureau of Judicial Statistics.

- Blacks who killed whites were sentenced to death 22 times more frequently than blacks who killed blacks and seven times more frequently than whites who killed blacks, according to crime researcher David C. Baldus.

The findings buttress the contentions voiced in a recent

national report that the juvenile justice system is home to wide racial disparities.

Last week, a national report from a leading criminal justice think tank, the Youth Law Center, pointed to a "cumulative disadvantage" for black and Latino youth in the nation's criminal justice system.

Chief among the findings was that a black youth is six times more likely to be locked up than a white youth, even when charged with a similar crime and when neither has a prior record.

While the substantive points in the "Justice on Trial" report have been revealed in earlier studies, activists have addressed them in a "piecemeal fashion," said Laura Murphy, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's legislative office.

The issues are likely to get more attention now that these findings have all been pulled together in one report, Murphy said.

Murphy said she was encouraged that during the presidential debates of both major political parties, candidates had to field questions on racial profiling by police, the practice of stopping and questioning disproportionately high numbers of minorities.

"In the past, all they would say is that we're going to get tough on crime," Murphy said. "Now to begin to court key constituencies, they realize they have to make sure policies are fair and equitable. That represents some progress."

Among recommendations in the report are increased gathering of crime statistics by police, greater diversification in law enforcement, suspension of the death penalty and ending efforts to put juveniles in the adult justice system.

Curry makes history as first black to head magazine editors

WASHINGTON D.C. (NNPA) — George E. Curry, editor-in-chief of Emerge magazine, made history on Tuesday, May 2nd when he became president of the American Society of Magazine Editors (ASME), the first African-American and the first non-New York based editor to hold the association's top position. Prior to his election as president, Curry held the office of vice president for the organization.

As Curry prepares to assume leadership of the prestigious organization, he has outlined an agenda to help ensure that the world of magazine publishing continues to thrive, while striving to be more inclusive and

aware of the need for diversity in newsmen.

"In 1970, I could get a job with Sports Illustrated, the largest sports magazine in the world, but I couldn't get a job at my hometown newspaper in Tuscaloosa, Alabama," Curry recalls. "Now, 30 years later, I've been elected president of the American Society of Magazine Editors. We've come a long way to go."

The complexion of our nation is rapidly changing," said Curry. "If the magazine publishing world wishes to continue to flourish, it is of paramount importance that newsmen accurately reflect the communities that they serve."

Some immigrants are not as fortunate as Elian



Haitian boat people repatriated from Bahamas, arrive at Port-au-Prince International Airport Tuesday, May 2, 2000 a week after their attempt to sail to the United States ended in shipwreck in the Bahamas. (AP Photo/Daniel Morel)

Death penalty moratorium

The recent U.S. Supreme Court decision to deny hearing the Texas-based Gary Graham (a.k.a. Shaka Sankofa) case has opened more questions about the death penalty.

The most recent call for a moratorium has developed considerable momentum in large part because of the courageous voice of a Republican governor from Illinois—a state that implements the death penalty: there are now 780 groups, 18 municipalities, and four cities calling for a national moratorium. After 13 inmates have been released from Death Row since 1997, Gov. George Ryan's declared the state's capital punishment system was "fraught with error."

The Gary Graham case and Mumia Abu-Jamal cases are playing a role in election year politics. As Graham sits in a Texas prison awaiting his execution date despite of the existence of evidence which may prove his innocence, Texas Gov. George W. Bush continues to stand behind his policy-line comment under his watch, no innocent has ever been a victim of the death penalty in his state.

According to Mr. Bush, that is a fact. But there are other facts in this case that may attest to Mr. Graham's innocence. There are four witnesses that place Graham miles away at the time he is accused of killing a man with

a 22 caliber gun in May 1981. Police tests have noted that Mr. Graham's weapon—a .22—was not the weapon used in the shooting. (If Graham did the shooting, why he would be smart enough to get rid of the murder weapon, yet be caught with another?) Finally, the sole witness to the shooting—who saw the event from nearly 40 feet away at night—has been untruthful in her testimony since the case's start.

There are other inconsistencies. However, at the time of his trial, like many Blacks, Graham could not afford the best defense: much of what is known today never came to light at trial.

Like the Abu-Jamal case, there appears to be enough unanswered questions to determine the need for a new trial. It wouldn't be the first time Texas got the wrong man. According to the Death Penalty Information Center, there are at least seven cases wherein inmates were freed from Death Row; however, only one of those released is Black. The state refused to give inmate Robert Nelson Drew a new trial in 1994 even though another man confessed to the murder Drew was accused of. He was executed in 1994 just a few months before Mr. Bush came into office. Blood tests were not enough to free Odell Barnes, Jr. who was executed last March. The tests, taken from blood

the scene, proved the blood actually came from a blood storage facility—suggesting it was planted after the crime. Texas, known around the world for its harsh penal system, leads the nation in assigning the convicted to death row for crimes they were accused of committing as juveniles.

Mistaken convictions are all too common. Between 1971 and 1993, nearly 90 inmates were freed from death row across the nation. Of that number, more than 40 were Black. Since 1997, another 15 were released from death row—most of them were Black, too.

With so much human error and bias, Ryan and the growing coalition of anti-death penalty citizens are correct: The judicial system itself should be on trial.

Until a verdict is rendered, a moratorium is necessary. More cities, groups, businesses and citizens should call on their local and state representatives to put state funded killing on hold.

As it stands, the death penalty is a costly, erroneous system that claims more Black lives than any other group. Beyond morality, it is illogical in its use and largely indefensible in the manner in which it is practiced.

It needs to be ended before more innocent lives are destroyed.

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When regulations border on racism

Malcolm X Day

May 19, will mark the 75th birthday of Malcolm X, who later took the name of El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz after his pilgrimage to Mecca. Black America has been celebrating Malcolm X Day, in tribute to a man of unequivocal distinction and true conviction. His life changed my life. After reading "The Autobiography of Malcolm X," I was never the same again. This book was a replete nourishment, not that time, for my lackluster sense of Black America and its history. After reading this book I became a fiend for Black History, in search of my next dose. Malcolm's journey from a criminal to a prolific educator and his fearless way symbolized Greatness and I was enamored by his spiritual righteousness. Malcolm was a special human being, not liked to anyone. During the turbulent times of the Civil Rights Movement, he was viewed by some as a wayward black folk and the white masses as being politically incorrect. He did not receive the prestige acclaim that Martin Luther King did, simply because of his deliberate honesty and condemnation of white society right to its face. To lowly black male castaways, he gave them hope, a sense of power and pride. His nationalist movement via "The Nation of Islam," as radical as it may have seemed, was right on time. You had Malcolm doing his thing up North, and Martin Luther King leading the South — two very different leaders with the same common objective — to uplift their people. Malcolm said what most black people thought but were afraid to speak. He was our voice, when many were voiceless. Intelligent, suave, and debonair, I remember seeing Malcolm as a youngster on television in a talk-show type forum with a few white journalists, a commentator and some white big-shot — when Malcolm finished with them, he made them all look small and they probably wished they'd never invited him to be on the show. As a child, I was in awe of this and still am as a grown-up. What Malcolm meant to Black America rivals to history.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Honorable Reno:

I forwarded this letter to your office regarding the return of Black women returning to the United States from abroad who are disproportionately singled out for strip searches by U.S. Customs Service at airports. It was revealed by the General Accounting Office that whites are more likely found with contraband. This act of racial profiling of passengers is target at women of color (Blacks & Latinos), an added element of destroying the Black family. This mistreatment and humili-

ation of wives, mothers and daughters, added to the killings of Black men (James Earl Ray, James & Sons) are the systematic work of bringing the entire Black family into the loop of destruction. The law enforcement agents are the tool used to carry out acts of racial profiling, destabilization of Black families and finally their destruction. I strongly demand that action be taken against law enforcement agents that participate in such behavior as stated above. Your cooperation is utmost appreciated. Thank You.

William E. Frazier

Rustin's Civil Rights agenda

By Norman Hill

Nearly fifty years ago, a young idealistic black man named Bayard Rustin became a co-founder of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. It was Rustin who taught King Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence and how to use it as a tool for social change. In 1957 Rustin developed a draft for the organization of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a civil rights organization led by King. Until the mid-1960s Rustin was one of King's key advisers. He was also an associate of A. Philip Randolph, the great black labor and civil rights leader. In 1963 Rustin organized the March on Wash-

ington for Jobs and Freedom, which had been initiated by Randolph.

Two historic pieces of legislation in the mid-1960s constitute the greatest triumphs of the civil rights movement. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was the Magna Carta of African Americans. It banned Jim Crow segregation, prohibited racial discrimination in employment, and barred federal aid to organizations and programs practicing racial discrimination. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 secured the ballot for southern blacks for the first time since Reconstruction. These two pieces of legislation are the end to most legalized racial discrimination.

It is a tribute to Rustin's supple, sharp mind that despite his long and deep involvement in the nonviolent civil rights movement, he recognized by the mid-1960s that the movement needed to shift its emphasis in both goals and strategy. In an essay, "From Protest to Politics," Rustin spelled out his proposed shift. With discrimination outlawed and the ballot secure, the movement must make sure that the legal platform for racial equality is enforced and expanded, and it must also focus on remedying the historical discrimination that had left blacks at the bottom of the economic and social ladder.

John K. Carlisle

When Willie Jones, the African-American owner of a Nashville independent bookstore, purchased an airline ticket on February 27, 1991, little did he know that this seemingly routine purchase would lead to a two-year legal nightmare that nearly cost him his business.

Jones' "mistake" was paying cash for his ticket to Houston. He was going there to purchase plants and shrubbery for his business. Jones mistakenly aroused suspicions that he was a drug dealer because African-Americans carrying large amounts of cash apparently fit the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) profile for such criminals.

Nashville police officers detained Jones and searched his luggage with drug-sniffing dogs, but found no drugs. Still suspicious, they seized the \$9,600 Jones was carrying in his wallet despite Jones's protests that the money was for a book publisher and plants. Jones was never charged with a crime. Under federal civil forfeiture asset law, the federal government's authorities can seize the cash, home or any other asset of an individual they suspect of criminal activity, doing even if that individual is never charged or convicted of a crime.

Jones filed a race discrimination lawsuit against the DEA. In April 1993, a federal judge final-

ly ordered the DEA to return this innocent man's money.

Willie Jones's story is one of 100 stories profiled in the National Bureau of Environmental and Regulatory Victims, which is soon to be released by The National Center For Public Policy Research. These stories describe the tragic consequences that result when constitutional-protected rights are undermined through regulations meant to promote positive objectives like fighting crime.

While Americans of all races and ethnic backgrounds suffer unfairly from poorly-crafted and excessive regulations, African-Americans have seen their share of abuses.

Witness the case of Nathaniel Craigiles. Craigiles, a Baptist preacher in Chattanooga, Tennessee, began selling funeral caskets in March 1999. He believed he could attract significant business since he was selling caskets for \$800 when funeral homes were charging them for \$3,200. But his business was his business, not the funeral home industry.

Only four months after he started his company, the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance's Funeral Board and Burial Services Division, the regulatory arm of the state funeral home industry, shut down Craigiles's store claiming that he had to be a funeral director to sell caskets.

Funeral home directors must get a license that qualifies them to embalm and bury bodies. But Craigiles doesn't see why he needs to throw the baby out with the bathwater and get an expensive process of getting a license to embalm and bury bodies when all he wants to do is sell caskets.

Craigiles even received threatening phone calls and notes from people he suspects were his competitors. They said unless we shut down, something was going to happen."

Craigiles is considering filing a lawsuit challenging the state licensing regulations as an unconstitutional restraint of competition. He vows to fight on. "This is our livelihood. This is a hardship for me."

In another case, Willie Brown's WLUV 90.9 radio station was popular with the citizens of Homestead, Florida but not the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The station's 13-year-old mixture of gospel music and community announcements provided the predominantly older listeners with a welcome alternative to the limited variety of stations broadcast in that part of south Florida. But in July 1998, the FCC shut down WLUV because the owner did not have a license, even though he had repeatedly tried to secure one.

A 63-year-old activist popularly known as "Brother Brown," Brown has been a fixture in Homestead for many years. On

two different occasions, Dale County declared Willie Brown Days to honor his many achievements. His work was honored on the steps of the U.S. House of Representatives, and he has even had his photograph taken with First Lady Hillary Clinton.

Radio established radio broadcasts. After establishing the establishment, the FCC continues to adhere to the long-established policy of strictly regulating the entry of new stations. The FCC-denied Brown's application for a license three times, even after he stated that he would not infringe on the signals of other area radio stations. Brown's loyal listeners were quite angry about the closure. The Homestead and neighboring Florida City government members approved resolutions asking the FCC to keep "Brother Brown" on the air. But the FCC was apparently unmoved and WLUV is still silent.

There is no question that regulations are needed to protect public safety, encourage responsible business practices and address other legitimate public policy objectives. But when many of those regulations unfairly target the innocent and responsible people such as Willie Brown, it's clear that some laws need rethinking.

Workforce investments and reparations

By Herbert A. Whitehouse

Student achievement in many of our city schools is appalling. What can be done? For years people of good will have focused on segregation and integration of students as an important solution to our education problems. I suggest that integration of the management goals and objectives of these schools with the goals and objectives of business and government is a more important issue. Without that kind of integration, accountability is impossible to achieve and maintain.

When a city school is managed separately from, and is not integrated with, the management and political goals of society, accountability for success will begin to exist when the success or failure of those schools is seen in important terms. When that happens, the students in those schools will naturally feel a new sense of hope. And hope, the most important factor in student achievement.

We need to reintroduce hope

to our city schools and to those schools serving disadvantaged children. For many students hope simply requires a practical connection between school and business and between school and jobs. In other words, school should become identified with a realistic and practical hope of economic success.

When school is not easy when a student's parents are poorly educated and have never had economic success, then and only then we can introduce real practical hope, then performance and academic achievement of students of all race and socio-economic mix will improve.

The first step for building a foundation is the responsibility of our business and community leaders acting in partnership with government schools is the responsibility of society as a whole. When some of our largest city school systems were found lacking, the State took the responsibility. That was the answer, and that society was accepting responsibility. But the results for the children were not good. And recently, when some \$60 million in Newark's state-run public school system turned out

to be missing, the solution of State management seemed to offer even less promise.

So, if we are to go beyond school management. All over the state we see a wide disparity in student achievement by various test scores. Some schools have high levels of achievement for as much as 80 or 90 percent of students. Others have low achievement levels for even a majority of their students. School funding has also been blamed for these disparities. Our Supreme Court has mandated high state standards, denied the full advantages of education and training. We are now living in a global economy. Business from any place in the world, whether located in Taiwan, Germany, India, or Texas is in competition with New Jersey business. New Jersey needs to commit itself to developing a comprehensive workforce investment system in order to stay competitive. When that commitment is made because it is recognized as an economic imperative, accountability will return to our schools and hope to our most disadvantaged students.

Our Workforce Investment Board must accept a mission to help ensure that our economy is provided with educated and skilled workers, and to ensure that no segment of society is denied the full advantages of education and training. We are now living in a global economy. Business from any place in the world, whether located in Taiwan, Germany, India, or Texas is in competition with New Jersey business. New Jersey needs to commit itself to developing a comprehensive workforce investment system in order to stay competitive. When that commitment is made because it is recognized as an economic imperative, accountability will return to our schools and hope to our most disadvantaged students.

Taking Rev. Sharpton's Movement to the Next Step

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

Recently I appeared as a panelist at Columbia University to discuss the role of the Black community in the November elections. The panel, which included a number of Black officials like Deputy Borough President for Manhattan David Adams and William Allen, a Democratic Party District Leader from Harlem, was organized by the Black Law Student Association as part of their 2nd Annual Paul Robeson Conference.

I told the audience that in my view, the role of the Black community in politics overall has been developing over the last 10 years, and that in discussing how to move forward, it was wise to review how we got to where we currently are. I told the story of Reverend Al Sharpton's rise to political prominence in New York from my vantage point as someone who "knew him when" — before he entered the mainstream and as someone to explore the question before us.

Here's a brief review of that history. In the mid 1980's there were two burning issues of the day in New York politics: racial violence and having a mayor who was completely insensitive to the concerns of our communities. Sound familiar? It is. The victims names were different. Michael Griffith, Michael Stewart, Darryl Cabey. And a few years later Yusuf Hawkins. The mayor's name was differ-

ent too. It was Ed Koch. He was a shrewd race-baiter and a polarizer.

Rev. Al Sharpton was already a veteran of many years of civil rights struggles. He took to the streets and the subway tracks and soon the airwaves, demanding justice for Black people. No justice, no peace, was his rallying cry.

It was during this time that Rev. Sharpton and I started working together. I brought my supporters out to protest with him, sat through court-room trials with him, and sometimes led his demonstrations with him after he was arrested.

Rev. traded his independence for greater access in the Democratic Party.

ed for acts of civil disobedience. We came to know each other quite well.

Rev. Sharpton was the protest leader. He protested the political establishment that was serving his intent, including the Democratic Party establishment, Black and White. The establishment hated him. Black leadership was seen as a threat to their turf. The White liberals were frightened of him because he wouldn't tow the liberal line because he was a maverick and a militant.

Rev. Sharpton and I had

quite a lot in common, in this regard. Though he was more of a nationalist, and I have more of a multi-racial following, we were both demonized by the media and the political establishment, including the liberal/left. Yet, it was in many respects our relationship that helped him turn that around. My network had much greater access to money, to opinion makers in the private sector, to the business community and to innovators in the field of technology, education and theatre. This helped Sharpton break

out of some of the confines of the narrow nationalist circles and helped him in the end ultimately helped him "cross over" into becoming a powerful mainstream figure.

Rev. traded his independence for greater access in the Democratic Party. He ran for Senate for the second time in 1994, and for mayor in 1997, when he shocked the entire political scene by almost forcing a run-off. I can understand why he made the deal with the Democrats, though I disagree with it.

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Business Calendar

MONDAY, MAY 15

DENVER — The Research and Development Council of New Jersey offers four engineering and technical scholarships for college students. For further information, call (973) 827-5330.

TUESDAY, MAY 16

MT LAUREL — The CEO Peer Track Presents "Changing Your Business Model/Doing Business on the Web." For further information, call (856) 787-9700.

THURSDAY, MAY 18

NEWARK — Horizon Model will present its 52nd Annual New Jersey Business Conference, starting at 8 a.m. For further information, call (973) 486-5300.

EAST BRUNSWICK — The 52ND Annual NJ Business Conference 2000/2001 will be held at 8:00 a.m. For further information, call (973) 673-5790.

SATURDAY, MAY 20

NEWARK — The Professional Legal Training Center for Secretaries, Inc. hosts a Marketing Conference. Work shop at 9 a.m. For further information, call (973) 624-2414.

Send your business announcements to City News Business Calendar 111 Mulberry Street - Suite 1F Newark, NJ 07102

MLK Students minding their business plans

LAWRENCEVILLE, N.J. — The concept of "Mind Your Business" MLK has spun off to a second Trenton area school under Luther King Jr. Middle School.

More budding entrepreneurs 22 sixth to eighth graders in all will present their business plans Wednesday, May 3 to an advisory board composed of Rider University board members. In group style, presentations will be made by two student teams, starting at 2 p.m. The students' businesses will be open to the public Saturday, May 13, at the school's first MOB Market Fair & Flea Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on the front lawn of the building, located at Martin Luther King Boulevard and Southern Street.

The MOB pilot program at Martin Luther King will be run solely by the middle school, said Dr. Sigfredo Hernandez, associate professor of marketing at Rider and founder of MOB. The school has a reputation for being community-oriented with its after school and other special programming to further strengthen the personal and vocational development of its students. The principal, Marlene Bennett, is very happy to host the program because of its potential benefit to the kids.

Guiding the children will be three K-12 teachers: Sharon Courtney, Regina Thompson and Carmela Whybark. Since January, they have received training from Rider's MOB program mentors. For further information, contact Dr. Hernandez at 896-5509.

Power Breakfast 2000: New opportunities for Black Business

By Mark Neiman

New York, NY: (April 2000) Business professionals and entrepreneurs across the tri-state area are eagerly anticipating the "New Opportunities, New Challenges for Black Business" Power Breakfast coming to Manhattan's Roosevelt Hotel on May 16 from 7:30 to 10:00 a.m. The breakfast will be the fourth of the outstanding Power Breakfast Seminar Series 2000, sponsored and presented by BLACK ENTERPRISE Magazine, WBLS-FM Radio and The Network Journal and co-sponsored by Kirlin Securities, Inc. and 1800 Call ATT.

"New Opportunities, New Challenges for Black Business," will feature an exceptional roster of business leaders, including the outstanding Black founder and publisher Earl G. Graves, Percy E. Sutton, founder and chairman, Emeritus of Inner City Broadcasting Corporation, (ICBC), Byron Lewis, chairman and CEO of UniWorld Group, the highest Edmond Jr., Executive Director of BLACK ENTERPRISE will host the event.

Earl G. Graves, a nationally recognized authority on Black business, is the Chairman and CEO of UniWorld Group, Ltd. Parent company of BLACK ENTERPRISE Magazine, a business publication targeted to African American professionals, corporate executives, entrepreneurs and decision-makers. The magazine, with annual sales of \$47.3 million, has a circulation of 357,000 and a readership of more than 3 million. Earl G. Graves, Sr. is currently listed in Who's Who in America and was recently named one of the Top 100 Business News Luminaries of the Century by TIFP, a publication that covers business journalism. In 1999, he was the recipient of the 84th NAACP Spingarn Award, the highest achievement award for African Americans. His book, "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," published by Harper Business Publications, has made The New York Times and Wall Street Journal Business bestseller lists.

"New Opportunities, New Challenges for Black Business," will feature an exceptional roster of business leaders'

Percy E. Sutton, businessman, attorney, civil and human rights activist, U.S. Air Force veteran with the historic Tuskegee Airmen and former long-time President of the Borough of Manhattan. He is the founder and chairman, Emeritus of Inner City Broadcasting Corporation, (ICBC), a New York based, radio, cable television, telecommunications and entertainment company with properties and investments in New York, California, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Zimbabwe, Zambia and South Africa. Mr. Sutton is also chairman and controlling shareholder of African Continental Telecommunications Limited

(ACTEL), a satellite-based system designed to furnish Internet and telecommunications services to the continent of Africa.

Additionally, Mr. Sutton is the founder and chairman of Touch 'N Tutor, a computer-based, interactive, multi-media, learning system designed to teach users to function in the languages of their work or community environment. Mr. Sutton is a co-founder and director of "Bind, Inc.," a Columbia University-developed, network software-operating platform that permits end-to-end guarantee of quality of service over wired and wireless networks. Mr. Sutton has received more than seven hundred and fifty (750) national, international and local awards, honoring his contributions in the fields of communications, high technology, civil rights, business, law, aviation and philanthropy. Among the honors received by Mr. Sutton is the highest award of the National NAACP "The Spingarn Medal" and the Award for Leadership in the field of National Black Leadership Forum, "The Lamplighters Award."

Byron E. Lewis, Chairman and CEO of UniWorld Group, has been a pioneer in the marketing and communications field for 35-years, working with African-American newspapers and publishing and promotional ventures in Harlem, New York. He has built UniWorld into the nation's largest independently owned ethnic advertising agency. Since 1994, UniWorld developed Burger King's national interim creative campaign generating the greatest month sales increase in the company's history. In 1995, UniWorld won Mars Inc.'s "The honor of the year" for market account, the largest mainstream advertising assignment ever awarded to an ethnic agency.

Mr. Lewis is proud of his long standing business association with nationally prominent African American leadership, including work for the campaigns of Newark Mayor Ken Gibson, the Rev. Jesse Jackson's first presidential campaign and the first Black Political Summit in Gary, Indiana. He has served more than 15 years as Executive Producer for "America's Black Forum," hosted by Julian Bond, which is the nation's only Black news program on commercial television and is syndicated in 70 major markets and reaches over 15 million U.S. households. Founder and Executive Producer of the Acapulco Black Film Festival, Mr. Lewis is listed in "Who's Who in America," and sits on the boards of the Phoenix House Foundation, the New York City Sports and Entertainment Center, the Metro Board of Governors for the U.S. Olympic Committee, among other organizations.

The Power Breakfast Seminar Series 2000 concludes on June 20th. The topic will be "The Millionaire's Club: How to Start and Run Your Own Investment Club." Savvy business professionals from the New York metro area will be sure to take advantage of these information-packed seminars, particularly at the low fee of \$20 in advance, (\$25 at the door). Call (866) 233-1110 or register online with The Network Journal at www.tnj.com.

Rents rise and availability drops

SADDLE BROOK — New Jersey's commercial real estate markets began the new millennium on a decidedly positive note, continuing the momentum established at the end of the last century. According to Insignia/ESG's First Quarter Office Market Report, New Jersey continued to post strong numbers in terms of both supply and demand during the first quarter of 2000, following one of the best years in leasing activity in nearly five years, as more firms continue to expand or relocate to the State.

Leasing volume increased to 27.1 million square feet of negative the first quarter of 2000, a 31 percent increase over first quarter 1999. Statewide space availability dipped slightly to 16.53 million square feet, despite the addition of 4.28 million square feet of new office space in the period.

Positive net absorption of 810,000 square feet during the first quarter of 2000 is a good indicator of the overall health of the market, and represents a major turnaround from the 920,000 square feet of negative net absorption experienced in 1999. Average asking rents statewide climbed more than a dollar per square foot to \$24.30 from a year ago, as market activity continued to be robust.

New Jersey continues to be a magnet, attracting firms from New York and the surrounding area, due to sound economic and qualitative factors, said Patrick Murphy, executive director of Insignia/ESG. "A large and well-educated workforce, lower asking rents, and incentives for construction and a good quality of life, as well as State economic incentives, continue to make the difference."

New Jersey's Waterfront,

Parshippany and Route 287/Piscataway/Brunswick submarkets experienced significant leasing activity during the first quarter. Major transactions in Parsippany included Degussa Huls 136,600 square-foot lease at Morris Corporate Center IV in a deal brokered by Robert Rudin and Andrew Zeeas of Insignia/ESG, and ADP's purchase of the 129,800 square-foot 15 Waterview Boulevard building. On the Waterfront, Merrill Lynch leased nearly entire 302,000 square-foot building at 55 Green Street in Jersey City, accounting for the bulk of activity in that sub-market. Motorola led the way in the Route 287/Piscataway/Brunswick submarket, leasing 240,000 square feet at 1111 Dunham Avenue in South Plainfield, NJ.

Other major leasing transactions included Arthur Anderson's pre-lease of 110,000 square feet at 105 Eisenhower Parkway in Roseland, NJ, which more than offset the negative net absorption from space returned to the market and new construction in the Suburban Essex/Eastern Essex sub-market from a year ago.

In fact, 16 of the 20 submarkets tracked by Insignia/ESG experienced positive net absorption as compared to just 11 a year ago. AT&T Corporation vacated 419,750 square feet at 2 Galesburg Drive in Parsippany, representing the only major block of space returned to the market during the first quarter. The availability rate comprised 13 of the 20 submarkets tracked versus the same period last year. According to Insignia/ESG, average asking rents in the New Jersey market increased by more than \$1 per square foot from a year ago to \$24.30 per square foot.

Leading the way once again was the Waterfront segment, which has soared more than \$5 per year ago to \$31.95 per square foot. The Montvale/Woodcliff Lake submarket also continued its upward trend, climbing significantly as well by more than \$5 per square foot over the past year.

Other significant gains in rental rates were achieved in the Morrisstown (\$27.26 psf) and Passaic (\$26.85 psf) submarkets from 1999.

Insignia/ESG's New Jersey operations in Saddle Brook provide comprehensive brokerage, consulting and investment services statewide. Last year, it handled more than 10 million square feet of tenant representation, lease agencies, and disposition assignments, and managed more than 3.2 million square feet of New Jersey commercial property.

Insignia/ESG is one of the largest commercial real estate services providers in the United States, with comprehensive brokerage, property management, investment, development, and debt placement operations in many of America's top markets, including New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Boston, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Phoenix and Washington, D.C. Through Richard Ellis, Inc., Insignia/ESG provides a variety of advanced commercial real estate services in the United Kingdom. Nationally, Insignia/ESG provides services for a property portfolio spanning more than 230 million sq. ft. Insignia/ESG is a subsidiary of Insignia Financial Group, Inc., a publicly traded company listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "IFS."

Fannie Mae's Employer Assisted Benefit

BEDMINSTER, NJ — Fannie Mae (FNM/NYSE), the nation's largest source of financing for home mortgages, and CUMAnet (Credit Union Mortgage Alliance Network), a credit union industry service organization, with 36 credit union clients, today announced an initiative designed to offer employer-assisted housing opportunities to New Jersey employees of companies who contract with CUMAnet's clients. CUMAnet's New Jersey client credit unions are eligible to offer their New Jersey-based select employee groups and sponsors homeownership benefits including secured or unsecured loans or gifts; matched savings; home buyer education; interest rate buy down and in-kind contributions. Fannie Mae through its Employer Assisted Housing (EAH) initiative, will purchase first mortgage loans originated in connection with the EAH benefit provided by the employer group. Our follow-up services through its Employer Assisted Housing (EAH) initiative, will purchase first mortgage loans originated in connection with the EAH benefit provided by the employer group. Our follow-up services through its Employer Assisted Housing (EAH) initiative, will purchase first mortgage loans originated in connection with the EAH benefit provided by the employer group.

"The CUMAnet and Fannie Mae Employer-Assisted Housing initiative is an essential building block for creating vibrant neighborhoods in every area of New Jersey," said U.S. Representative Marge Roukema (R-NJ). "I hope more employers like CUMAnet will be launching these initiatives for New Jersey residents."

"The partnership Fannie Mae has entered with CUMAnet and the employers who use the services of its member credit unions, is an excellent example of how employers can encourage their workers to invest in their communities through homeownership," said Timothy Toulhey, director of the New Jersey Partnership Office.

Fannie Mae recently announced an expansion of its EAH initiative under the company's recently announced \$2 billion "American Dream Commitment" with a goal to help 1 million employees nationwide establish an employer-assisted housing benefit by the end of the decade.

"Affinity Federal Credit Union is pleased to be a part of this initiative because housing is essential to the growth and welfare of

our community," said John Fenton, president and CEO of Affinity Federal Credit Union. "We look forward to helping make the dream of homeownership in New Jersey communities reality."

The member credit unions of CUMAnet include:

- Affinity Federal Credit Union
- B & B Federal Credit Union
- Bayonne Housing Employees Federal Credit Union
- BOC Employees Federal Credit Union
- Calo Federal Credit Union
- Central Bergen Federal Credit Union
- Central Jersey Federal Credit Union
- DE Camp Federal Credit Union
- Hamm Horizons FCU
- East Orange VA Hospital Federal Credit Union
- Fed-Win Federal Credit Union
- Four-Sixteen Federal Credit Union
- Hamden Horizons FCU
- HLR Federal Credit Union
- Lakewood Naval Federal Credit Union
- Liberty Savings Federal Credit Union
- North Jersey Federal Credit Union
- Mercer County Teachers FCU
- Mid-State Federal Credit Union
- Morrisstown Federal Credit Union
- New Brunswick Postal Federal Credit Union
- NJ Gateway Federal Credit Union
- NJDOT Federal Credit Union
- North Jersey Federal Credit Union
- Novartis Federal Credit Union
- OCNAC No. 1 Federal Credit Union
- Public Service Hudson County Employees FCU
- Public Service Planning Federal Credit Union
- South Bergen Federal Credit Union
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Assemblyman LeRoy Jones introduces bill to close 'Digital Divide'

TRENTON — Assemblyman LeRoy J. Jones Jr. has introduced legislation to create a pilot program to help bridge the "digital divide" that often leaves urban minority school children at a disadvantage in accessing and utilizing computerized information.

"In today's society, a lack of computer access is tantamount to being deprived of food, shelter, and potable water," said Jones (D-Essex). "The state has a responsibility to ensure that every child in this state gains the computer skills necessary to succeed in the information age of the 21st Century."

Jones introduced his bill (A-2350) on May 1, to bring addressing chronic telecommunications shortcomings in the state's most disadvantaged school districts. Many of these school systems are in urban centers and service largely minority communities that are victimized by what has become known as the "digital divide."

Jones' measure would establish a "Digital Divide Assistance Pilot Program" to help close the gap between school districts that

lack access to advance telecommunications services and wealthier districts that enjoy

"Today's youth simply won't be able to compete in the future if they don't have basic computer skills and Internet access is as important as writing, reading, and mathematics,"

such access. The bill would appropriate \$300,000 to the state Department of Education for distribution as information-technology grants to six computer-deprived school districts representing the state's northern, central, and southern regions.

To implement the program, Jones' bill calls for the creation of a 15-member advisory council that would determine which

under-served districts need the state computer. The advisory panel also would policy on how the money should be used. Finally, the bill requires state education officials to issue a report within two years to the Governor and Legislature on the results of the pilot program and to recommend ways of improving the program's effectiveness.

"This is as crucial an investment in public education as money to build new school buildings," said Jones. "Today's youth simply won't be able to compete in the future if they don't have basic computer skills and Internet access is as important as writing, reading, and mathematics."

According to a July 1999 report from the U.S. Department of Commerce, the technology gap between high-and low-income Americans is widening at an alarming pace. The report found that those with a college degree are eight times more likely to have a computer at home and are nearly 16 times as likely to use home Internet access as those with an elementary school education.



Assemblyman LeRoy Jones Jr. (second from left) recently introduced a bill to keep urban minority children from falling behind the "Digital Divide." File photo



Senator Rice (right), pictured here with "City News 100 Most Influential" attendees, was recently appointed to the Joint Committee on Public Schools, which monitors those schools affected by the Abbott decision. File photo

Rice renamed to education panel

TRENTON — Senate Associate Minority Leader Ronald L. Rice has been reappointed to the Joint Committee on the Public School, whose charge includes monitoring Abbott districts such as Newark, Irvington, and East Orange.

I want to thank both Senate Minority Leader (Richard J.) Codey and Senate President (Donald T.) DiFrancesco for having the confidence in me to reappoint me to this important education panel," said Sen. Rice (D-Essex), whose 28th Legislative District which includes part of Newark, Irvington, Maplewood and South Orange. "We have a number of important education issues to deal with, from early childhood education to education funding. I look forward to tack-

"We have a number of important education issues to deal with, from early childhood education to education funding. I look forward to tackling these and other issues of importance to urban and suburban school districts."

Sen. Rice will also serve as co-chairman, along with Sen.

Norman M. Robertson, (R-Passaic), of the Joint committee's Abbott Subcommittees. This panel, which held a hearing on whole school reform in Newark last December, will likely gather again soon to tackle issues of importance to "Abbott" school districts, including Newark and Irvington.

I have worked hard to develop a continuing dialogue between state education officials, including Commissioner (David) Hespe, and Newark education leaders," Senator Rice said. "It's very important that the state continue this dialogue, and I intend to use my position in heading up this panel to make sure the citizens of Newark and Irvington have their interests heard in Trenton."

Assembly Whip Nia Gill sends out a "Community Alert"

Commentary

Assemblywoman Nia Gill

MONTCLAIR — Please be advised that legislation has been introduced which requires registered voters to present photo a ID when voting at a polling place at any election. The legislation, A-2222, is sponsored by Kevin O'Toole (R-Essex).

A-2222, which require that a voter would present for inspection, an identifying document that bears the voter's name and a photograph of the voter. If a voter does not present the identifying document, the qualification or entitlement of the voter to vote may be challenged.

As we complete Census 2000

In short this bill would create another barrier to voting in New Jersey. We must not allow the citizens of New Jersey to be excluded from the table of democracy.

and look toward the 2000 legislative reapportionment and Congressional redistricting, we must give close scrutiny to state laws that may be introduced with a discriminatory purpose and have the effect of diluting minority voting. Strength. In short this bill would create another barrier to voting in New Jersey. We must not allow the citizens of New Jersey to be excluded from the table of democracy.

I oppose this legislation and will continue to speak candidly, open, and directly on all issues that citizens in the 27th Legislative district. If we find the bill is posted, we will request your attendance in Trenton as a show of opposition."

Black people respond to targeted marketing campaigns

According to a report by Packaged Facts*, black people are highly receptive to financial services that are marketed to them. Example: Deluxe Corporation, by creating a check series commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, exceeded their market projections by 15%.

*Packaged Facts is a product of FINDSVF Research Publications Group

2 great ways to reach the African-American Business & Professional Community



Minority Business Journal

The *Minority Business Journal* is a monthly publication focusing on minority and women business enterprise in New Jersey and New York City. *MBJ* regularly features the accomplishments of minority and women businesses, information concerning maintaining and expanding business, opportunities available for minority entrepreneurs, a calendar of events, editorial and commentary - issues facing minority businesses. *MBJ* offers an excellent forum for classified and display advertising and special business and professional card directories. *MBJ* provides an important communication link in the information network vital to the growth and economic development of minority communities.

New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Agency introduces \$89.7 million in housing bonds

TRENTON — The New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (HMFA) provided funding for 1,382 units of new multi-family housing during the first quarter of 2000. Financing for families and seniors was

"These developments not only provide families and seniors with housing opportunities, but provide construction jobs that help strengthen the state's economy."

The Counties to benefit from the HMFA Housing Bonds

- Middlesex — Buckingham Place — Assisted Living — 95 units
- Hudson — Lafayette Village — Family — 124 units
- Monmouth — Mew at Collingwood Park — Family 110 units
- Monmouth — Rog Mill Families — Family — 104 units
- Monmouth — Sycamore Manor — Assisted Living — 124 units

only.

Proceeds from the bond sale in the amount of \$89 million will be used to fund construction or permanent financing for 10 multi-family developments throughout the state. Of the 1,104 units to be constructed, 443 will be affordable for families earning low-to-moderate incomes. In addition to providing affordable housing for families, the bond sale will provide financing for 271 units of affordable housing for seniors and financing for 4 assisted living developments.

The AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust provided \$30.9 million in financing for 278 units in 3 assisted living facilities. The AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust is a pension real estate investment vehicle focused on investing in the development of housing and community revitalization across the country.

"We are committed to finding innovative ways to develop housing opportunities for New Jersey residents. Our partnership with the AFL-CIO has allowed HMFA to utilize additional funding resources to provide assisted living residences that are affordable to fixed income seniors," said HMFA Executive Director Deborah DeSantis.

Minority Business-to-Business Directory

The *Minority Business-to-Business Directory* is a directory of minority- and woman-owned businesses and companies committed to doing business with minorities. The *Directory* networks minority businesses, identifies minority and women businesses with whom public and private sector businesses and agencies can contract for products and services, and exposes a growing force of minority businesses to the general consumer. The *Directory* features listings and advertising as well as provides a resource guide for minority and women entrepreneurs and potential entrepreneurs to help facilitate starting and maintaining a business. The *Minority Business-to-Business Directory* includes listings from public and private sector businesses and agencies, minority- and woman-owned business and small businesses. A delineation of ownership is provided with each listing. The *Minority Business-to-Business Directory* is a tool for the growth and expansion of minority and women entrepreneurs and economic development in the African-American community.



Call (973) 642-4400 for more information

Minority Business Journal & Minority Business to Business Directory opens up a whole new world of possibility

Local Briefs

STATE REQUIRES DRIVERS PRODUCE INSURANCE WHEN RECLAIMING IMPOUNDED AUTOS

TRENTON - A Senate panel today released legislation Assembly Associate Minority Leader Arlene M. Friscia and Assembly Deputy Minority Leader Neil M. Cohen sponsored to help keep uninsured motorists off the roads.

The bill (A-135) would require a driver to provide documentation of valid automobile insurance before an impounded car could be returned to the motorist.

"The state has an obligation to do all it can to keep uninsured motorists off the road," said Friscia (D-Middletown). "It's logical and efficient to utilize impound lots as police-oriented checkpoints to fight drivers who try to cheat the system by not carrying insurance."

State law requires all motorists to carry a minimum of liability insurance. However, an estimated 600,000 motorists are currently on the roads without insurance.

These uninsured drivers are a major contributing factor to the state's highest-in-the-nation car insurance rates. The situation requires motorists with insurance to carry higher levels of coverage to protect themselves in the event they have a collision with an uninsured driver.

Under the bill, police impound lots would serve as a new weapon in the battle to get uninsured motorists off the road and put only insured motorists back in the drivers seat.

"It is irresponsible to hand a vehicle owner their car with no guarantees that they have required coverage," said Cohen (D-Union). "Without this legislation, the state is acting as an accomplice to uninsured motorists by allowing them to drive off the lot without validation of insurance."

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee approved the bill, which had passed the Assembly 75 to 0 in January. It now goes to the Senate President who decides whether it may be posted for a floor vote.

ASSEMBLY DEMOCRATS PASS INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS BILL

TRENTON - The Assembly Banking and Insurance Committee today approved legislation sponsored by Assembly Associate Democratic Leader Wilfredo Caraballo that would create a state-sanctioned savings account program to help low- and moderate-income families save money to buy a first home, start a business, or obtain a better education.

The bill (A-2143) would earmark \$5 million to start up a network of Individual Development Accounts (IDA) programs across the state. New Jersey would become the 25th state in the country to establish such a program if the bill becomes law.

"This measure is a clear case of providing people a helping hand to improve their lives," said Caraballo (D-South Orange). "This program will give low-income families a chance not only to save money, but to improve their quality of life with their savings."

The measure would establish the "Individual Development Account Program" in the Department of Community Affairs and it would principally target people eligible for public assistance under the Work First New Jersey program. The program would give low-income and moderate-income families, including anyone eligible for public assistance to start a savings account.

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ECC and UPS sign Earn and Learn program



From left, Timmy Nelson, United Parcel Service Metro Jersey District human resources manager, and Essex County College President A. Zachary Yamba, exchange congratulations after the college and UPS signed the Earn and Learn program agreement. The program allows ECC students to work part-time for UPS and receive tuition assistance from the company.

NEWARK - Essex County College and United Parcel Service have entered into an agreement whereby ECC students work part-time for UPS while also receiving tuition assistance from the company. The col-

lege is the first in Essex County to participate in the UPS program.

"It's definitely a win-win situation all around," said an enthusiastic Pam Maynard, director of the college's Career Resource Center. "So many of

our students have no work and many of them may not qualify for financial assistance, so this program gives them a great opportunity to pursue their educational goals."

Dubbed the Earn and Learn program, the UPS initiative provides part-time employees at its Metro Jersey District facility in Secaucus up to \$3,000 in education assistance per calendar year with a lifetime maximum of \$15,000. Students may also qualify for a stipend up to \$2,000 a year with a lifetime ceiling of \$8,000.

In addition, ECC will receive from UPS \$100 per student hired. A bonus of \$2,000 will be given to the college if more than 35 students are hired for the part-time jobs. Maynard said all money received from UPS will be placed in the college's general scholarship fund.

We see the program not only as a valuable recruiting and hiring tool, but also as an important service to the communities.

Both ECC and UPS officials said at least 100 students are expected to participate in the beginning phase of the program

Students will work between three and a half to five hours a day for UPS.

Maynard said her office has begun recruiting students for the program.

"The UPS Earn and Learn program provides students with an excellent opportunity to receive a college education at a reduced cost," said Timmy Nelson, human resources manager for UPS' Metro Jersey District. "We see the program as a valuable recruiting and hiring tool, but also as an important service to the communities where our employees live and work."

ECC President A. Zachary Yamba agreed the program provides students with both a good resume builder and financial help. "We will let them know what's expected of them so we're confident that our students hired by UPS will continue to perform well in the classroom."

Yamba said he is pleased the UPS will determine if a transportation van can pick up students in Newark's University Heights area for specific shifts. "That would be a big help for our students who otherwise would have difficulty getting to UPS," he said.

There will be a variety of jobs offered at UPS for the students. Many will have entry level jobs in package handling. There are also specialized jobs in accounting, marketing and sales, engineering, and computers as well as manager trainees.

NOI named hate group

See NATION, page A1

the NOI.

"In characterizing the Nation of Islam as a 'hate group,' the SPLC demonstrates an unhealthy deficit in its understanding of the Black community," Dr. Joseph Lowery, chairperson of the Black Leadership Forum in a statement to the NNPA. "By our definition, hate groups are domestic terrorists who translate their bias and hatred in violent acts against innocent victims. I am not aware of any such behavior on the part of the Nation of Islam."

Lowery, President Emeritus of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, went on to say the SPLC has done well over the years in spotlighting race hate.

"While the SPLC has done commendable work in tracking White organizations as 'hate groups,' it is shamefully off the mark in this labeling."

Black Leadership Forum Executive Director and CEO Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Lefwich echoed Dr. Lowery's remarks.

"I am very concerned to learn that the NOI is listed as a hate group by the SPLC or anyone else," Scruggs-Lefwich said. "To my knowledge there is not sufficient evidence of incident or actions to justify the inclusion of the NOI since because it is a black separatist group."

"I certainly believe that this revelation requires serious deliberations and investigation before the issue escalates into an intractable confrontation," she said.

Johnnetta Cole, former president of Spelman College, to give commencement

WAYNE - William Paterson University in Wayne will hold its 171st commencement ceremony on Tuesday, May 9, 2000 at 10:30 a.m. on Wightman Field on campus. The rain date is Wednesday, May 10, also at 10:30 a.m.

A total of 863 students are scheduled to receive degrees. Bachelor's degrees will be conferred upon 741 undergraduates; 122 students will receive master's degrees. All graduates will have completed their degree requirements between January and May, 2000.

Johnnetta Cole, Presidential Distinguished Professor of Anthropology, Women's Studies and African American Studies at Emory University in Atlanta, and former president of Spelman College, will be awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters degree. Sister Jane Frances Brady, executive director of Eva's Kitchen and Sheltering Programs in Paterson and former president of St. Joseph's Hospital in Paterson, will receive

an honorary doctor of laws degree.

President Arnold Speert will address the graduates class along with Jones Poindejour of Union, senior class president, who will deliver the statement for the class of 2000.

Graduates will be recognized by college and will proceed to the platform to be congratulated by the college dean. Receptions for students, faculty and guests will be held in Caldwell Plaza on campus following commencement activities.

Alumni from the class of 1950, who graduated when William Paterson was called New Jersey State Teachers College at Paterson, will be present at the ceremony and attend a 50th reunion luncheon sponsored by the Alumni.

Relations Office. The Alumni Association's Young Alumni Chapter will host a Senior Send-Off reception on Monday, May 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. in Caldwell Plaza.

Cole is one of America's lead-

ing educators, anthropologists and advocates on issues of race, class and gender. She made history in 1987 when she became the first African-American woman to serve as president of Spelman College, Atlanta's historically black liberal arts college for women.

Her appointment spurred nationwide media attention. In 1991, Glamour magazine named her a "Woman of the Year," while Working Woman magazine named her one of America's "Ten Women to Watch." In 1992, she was named to President Clinton's transition team as

coordinator of education, labor, and arts and humanities. Cole, who holds a doctorate in anthropology from Northwestern University, is the author of the highly acclaimed book "Conversations: Straight Talk with America's Sister President," as well as two textbooks.

William Paterson University, one of the nine state colleges and universities in New Jersey, offers 29 undergraduate and 17 graduate programs through five colleges: Art and Communication, Business, Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Science and Health. Located

on 820 hilltop acres in Wayne, the university enrolls approximately 10,000 students and provides housing for nearly 2,000 students. The institution's 352 full-time faculty are highly distinguished and diverse scholars and teachers, many of whom are recipients of prestigious awards and grants from the Fulbright Program (24 scholars), the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and the American Philosophical Society.

Uniting & Building Community



We realize that our future lies chiefly in our own hands. We know that neither institution nor friends can make a race stand unless it has strength in its own foundation; that races like individuals must stand or fall by their own merit; that to fully succeed they must practice the virtues of self-reliance, self-respect, industry, perseverance, and economy.

— Paul Robeson

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CityLife

The Grand Dame of Beauty



Laura Ross Grant as she appeared when appointed Commissioner of Cosmetology in the State of New Jersey in the early '60s.



Grant at a later date.

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

Her heyday may have come and gone, but the life that Laura Ross Grant carved out for herself is filled with memories so fabulous they'll last her a lifetime. And this probably has a direct correlation as to how this 87-year-old Grand Dame contin-

ues to live as robust as if it was yesterday, days gone by. Her memories keep her strong.

With erect posture and with an air of aristocracy and elegant grace, you immediately know this is no ordinary woman. Today they call them Diva's, but Grant's obvious Grand Dame status, frankly, is superior to any diva. She is what Black History is made of. In the annals of Newark, she's a legend.

When I caught up with her, the longtime member of Hopewell Baptist Church had recently put the wraps on the "Senior Fashion Extravaganza" that she organized and presented on Palm Sunday.

"The Reverend told us to hold it in the basement," said the Matriarch of the beauty culture industry. "I said to him, Reverend you've got it wrong, my seniors can't be going down the steps to the basement." Making her point, the event which raised nearly \$3,000 for new pew cushions was held in the church's sanctuary. Also a computer and a brand new color television were raffled off at the event.

The senior models made their way to the runway stage bouncily with a strut to the tune of the piped in organ music, while showcasing a beautiful selection of spring fashions.

Sister Hodges pulled together a look that was classic — a two-piece beige dress piped in black made a nice statement: The Royal blue three-piece ensemble with matching long duster and wide brim mesh hat that Sis. Ethel Wright wore was a snazzy dressed up look. Madam Grant, who modeled an orange-silk jogging outfit, also demonstrated that she is still capable of touching her toes.

Overall, it was a spring collection of floral print two-piece dressing, pulled together suits and an array of out-of-sight hats.

"Olivia studied under me," states the Madam quite proudly about the fashion show's commentator.

She marvels in thought about those that she has nurtured along the way — from doing hair to modeling.

"I used to train models," says Madam Grant. "I trained Dionne Warwick, Reese LaTune and I worked together training models."

Exuding confidence, and as one would think anyone should having lived to be 87, but something says Madam Grant was confident a long time ago — confident enough to go after her dream and achieve heights that have become a part of Newark's rich history — its people.

She has been doing hair for over 50 years, still drives a mid-1970s Cadillac Eldorado, and once-upon-a-time drove Southside's Rescue Squad car, while tending to veterans for over 16 years. Indeed, Madam Grant has been a stand up person in the community.

Laura Mae's Beauty Salon, which she still operates out of her home, has been located in various locations throughout Newark, during her tenure in the beauty business.

"If they can have meals on wheels, then why not Beauty on Wheels?" says the madam. "We pick the seniors up and bring them here and do their hair." For many years, she operated a shop on Springfield Ave. The Countess counts herself as being one of the first.

"I was one of the first blacks to open a shop on Springfield Ave., back in the '50s," says the woman who didn't just make a name for herself in the beauty industry but rather made a mark on it.

"Gov. Meyner (1953-1961) appointed me to be over all the beauty salons and schools in New Jersey. I was the Commissioner. I was on the State Board of Cosmetology. I just retired three years ago." A living legend.

The Commissioner of beauty. Madam Grant's home equipped with a treadmill, is a testament to a wonderful life. Photos of herself at different stages in her life adorn her home. In some, she appears to be like a fashion model straight out the designer show-room of Christian Dior and right off the pages of Vogue. Directly in front of one picture that would rival a Hollywood publicity shot



Sister Ethel Wright modeled in the Palm Sunday fashion show.

rests her name-plate that reads: "Commissioner Laura Ross Grant."

Other photos tell the story of her active role in the community — hosting church socials, when women dressed elegantly in hats and gloves, presenting fashion shows, or her boarding a plane jetting off to Chicago for a beauty conference. This woman has led a life of nothing short on class and of a certain culture that does the black community proud.

A girl from Alabama. Laura Ross Grant took work at Michele's Beauty Salon on Market and Market Streets in Newark in 1934. Her foremost concern was earning a living to provide for her son, Eugene Geeter.

"I was working in a white shop. I wasn't nothing more than a maid. I washed the floors, washed the signs outside." And in some instances, she got the opportunity to hand the beauty operator the curlers.

"Sometimes black people used to ride by when I'd be outside washing the signs and they'd say 'hey what you doing?'"

She continued: "I didn't care what they said. I had to provide for my son. I started asking questions about how to get in the business. I said, do you have to go to college? I had graduated from high school. So I attended Apex Beauty College on W. Kinney St. Then I worked for Essie Mae's in Elizabeth for



Sister Hodges was also a model in the Senior Fashion Extravaganza.

many years. All she'd let me do was shampoo. I got my own shop on Hayes St. where I would bring the girls in and teach them how to do pressing and curling. When I started I used to get \$1.50 to \$2.50 for a head.

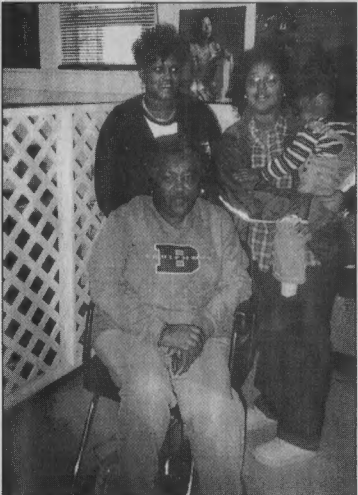
"A woman can put on anything she wants, but if her hair isn't done, she won't look good," says the Commissioner.

Today, after receiving a telephone call from WNSW radio personality "Kitty" Taylor, she tells the Grand Dame that she has just been named "Senior Citizen of the Month."

"She (Grant) is a fine woman," said Taylor. "She has done many things in the community." A plaque hangs in her kitchen from the Baldwin Ave. Block Association that states: "This plaque is given for your many years of outstanding dedication and service to our neighborhood." End of Story!

Sarah Daniel, Sheila Bolden, Georgia White, Annie Jackson, Jean Alexander, Arlene Salley, Annie Jones, Sis. Johnson, were models in

Sandra's Beauty Shop: A dream come true



L-R Sandra Gaddis with daughter Chanel and grandson Isiah, and mother Melody.

By Gilda Rogers

After twenty years of doing hair in different salons, Sandra Gaddis, should have known she was valued by the community when she recently opened her own beauty parlor — Sandra's Beauty Shop on Shrewsbury Ave. in Red Bank.

The only thing girlfriend had to do was move into the joint with her tools. Because her customers supplied everything else she could have possibly needed. The landlord provided the three commercial black salon chairs that are tucked inside each lattice divided cubicle, along with the two dryers. The place reminds you of a little dollhouse. With everything in its place and modernly enhanced by the black, white and gray décor — a television, curler caddies, two cordless telephones, microwave, refrigerator, and cash register — all were gifts from her customers.

"I always wanted to have a shop on Shrewsbury Ave.," said Gaddis, 43, a native of Red Bank, whose place of business is a new addition to the other recently opened establishments, which have found a home on the Westside of town, where the majority of Red Bank's black population live.

People can't help but to get to know each other in here. Referred to by her clients as the hair doctor, Gaddis has built a faithful clientele that have shadowed her every move.

"She takes her time and she tells you what you need," said Billie Daniels, who just happens to be Gaddis' aunt, besides a paying customer. Considerate of her customers' time, Gaddis when scheduling appointments will not have you waiting three and four hours in her salon for a do. A



A before shot of Doreen Daniels.



An after shot with a dye job and curls to go.



Satisfied customers — mother and daughter Pat and Ariel Joyner

striking beauty, this ebony sister has a charming personality to match. She stayed the course, worked hard, while being the dominant provider for her two children, Robert and Chanel. In other words, Gaddis has towed the line, and now she is starting to see the fruit of her labor — entrepreneur and soon to be new homeowner in a matter of weeks.

Managing a salon in Asbury Park gave Gaddis the ummumph needed to open her own shop. "I opened the shop, ordered all the supplies, did all the bookwork, the hiring, firing, you can't be sick. You have to just take a pill and go to work," Gaddis stated with conviction possessing a work ethic that eventually leads to success. And what a thriving business she is building. She recently had to remove the "Walk-ins Welcome" sign that was in the window.

When we were 12, she put the first chemical (a perm) in my hair," said cousin Doreen Daniels, who was in need of a pick-me-up makes a weekly stop at Sandra's Beauty Shop. The downright homey atmosphere has all the amenities of home, minus the bed. "I had that thick, thick hair, it was the best thing she could've done for me."

I remember braiding my brothers hair and his friends and doing braids in grammar school," said Gaddis. However, she had no idea she would be doing hair for a living. A full-service shop, from tightening up a sisters weave to twisting dreads, with all the "fried, dyed, and tied to the side," requests in between, which translates into a perm, dye, and style job. Sandra's Beauty Shop exemplifies all the love and support that embodies a community.

'I always wanted to have a shop on Shrewsbury Ave.'

Lessons Learned from Mom

Mary Lou Onque 1933 - 1998



By Gilda Rogers

There's a very distinct relationship that exists between a mother and daughter — a shared experience. Then there's the relationship between mother and son — it rivals no other.

As children, we come to depend on our mother for our every need. These monumental beings nurture and help cultivate our dreams. They are our first teacher, philoso-

pher, lawmaker and jury. Mother's fill a child's life with such profound and one-of-a-kind experiences, all in the name of love. Through a child's eye, they may seem to have supernatural qualities as they insist on knowing what lies up the road ahead.

Mothers are heaven sent, and often we take for granted to what great lengths a mother will go to protect their child. Basically, they're

always there for their children — through the good, the bad and the ugly. Some have equated motherhood to being the most challenging job any person can hold. And it is.

We've all learned very valuable lessons from mom and as we approach Mothers Day, some of the members of the City News staff would like to share lessons learned from their mom with you.

Ida Williams



By Rob Williams

Before I started reading and writing about great people, I had the chance (and still do) to observe one: my mother. Although I do listen and take heed to her lessons and advice, the one thing that stands out about her is her independence, pride, and intelligence.

From listening to her stories of when she was a *Black Panther* to her days of working two jobs, driving a red *Spitfire* convertible, and parrying, often flying to Chicago and Jamaica for a weekend getaway, she always expressed pride in being an independent thinker who made things happen for herself. And after nine years of living that life, I am grateful to her for giving up her freedom (and her full-time job) to give birth and raise me, and my two sisters. As she puts it, "I live for my children," and I appreciate having someone so strong and intelligent to be my support and my role model.

I love Mom, thank you very much for all you have done and continue to do, and Happy Mother's Day!

Sometimes when I see myself I look exactly like my mother. So much so that I become her. I realize she's not gone. She never left because I am my mother and she is me. We may try to deny the fact that we are all the continuum of our ancestors. Our spirits are one thread, weaving through time and space, unbroken. We come here to continue their work. Our children will continue ours. The miracle is that none of us is ever left here to do it alone.

With Sincere Love
From your daughter Yvonne



Glenn Foster and Family

By Kelly Foster

One very important lesson that my mother is teaching me now is how to cook, a skill I had, for a long time, dismissed as being too easy to be taught. I never realized how much planning and preparation cooking involves until I started doing it myself. In high school and college, I very much took for granted that my mother would have a hot, hearty meal prepared when I came home. But those days are over, and now I must cook for myself, of course.

The thought of cooking actual meals mentally drained me, until mother started coming with me on shopping trips, acting as my nutritional consultant. She gives me the rundown on food preparation. We shop at an organic foods store, and she tells me which foods are best to purchase.

Then, I have to plan a menu, which I rarely do. Once I've planned a menu, I need to freeze the food I won't be using in the near future. And if I defrost something, I need to make sure I cook it within a few days or it'll go bad. I never knew cooking was this involved! It's tiring, too. It looked so easy when my mom was doing it.

So far, I've only cooked real meals about once or twice a week. I'm still getting the hang of this cooking thing. No matter how good it tastes, though, it's not as good as hers. So thank you mom, for taking the time to show me how to eat healthy food, the proper way to prepare it, and how to enjoy it.

Now, if I can just learn to cook on a regular basis!

With Love
from your daughter Kelly

Helen Adams 1921-1982



I was raised by my grandparents, but my grandmother, Helen Adams, ruled the roost. Although she's passed on, she taught me lessons that, as she said many years ago one day I would thank her for. She taught me to be honest, first impressions are lasting, which translated into never leaving the house looking any kind of way. This evolved into me having pride in all the things that I do. Being independent and preparation in making a way for myself in this world was really big on her list. I listened, and I learned how to do more than one thing in which I can make a living from. She schooled me on this on a regular basis. It is because of my grandmother that I am the fashion and style maven that I am. To my mother, Jeanne, she taught me class and to live each day to the fullest and the beauty of friends. Through my eyes as a child my mother always appeared to be happy and was a class act in mannerism and speech. And today, I strive to live an honest life, happy everyday and as classy as I can be. To these two women I say thanks and I was listening. Sorry, and no fault of theirs but I never learned how to cook.

From your granddaughter and daughter
Gilda with much love

Loretta Hicks



My mother, Loretta Hicks, is a very independent black woman. She has worked hard her entire life. And at the age of 60, she's still going strong. My mother has taught me so many things, I'll just name a few. One of the things that stuck with me was to be independent, and to never depend on anyone, because only you can determine your fate in life. Whatever happens to you, good or bad happened because most of the time you let it happen. She's taught me to never turn my back on anyone in need and to help those who attempt to help themselves. She is a very giving person. I've watched her for years demonstrate these strong attributes and I see a little bit of her in me everyday, (that's a good thing, I love her for who she is and all the great things she has done for me, she's been my mother, my father, and my friend.....YOU ARE APPRECIATED.

With Love
From your daughter Regina

Happy Mother's Day

Heartbeat Calendar

SATURDAY, MAY 13

NEW BRUNSWICK—Robert Wood Johnson Hospital hosts its third annual, *Artistic Patient/Family Conference*, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. For information, call (732) 418-8110.

JERSEY CITY — St. Michael's Menodist Church will host prostate and blood pressure screenings from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For further information call (201) 946-6456.

NEWARK—Newark Beth Israel Medical Center will host a breast cancer screening from 9 a.m. to noon. For further information, call (973) 925-2673.

MONDAY, MAY 15

SECAUCUS — Meadowlands Hospital Medical Center offers a six week stress reduction course. For more information, call (201) 392-3180.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

NEWARK — Newark Beth Israel Center for Geriatric Health Care hosts a caregiver support group for breast cancer survivors at 3 p.m. For more information call (201) 925-6771.

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City Medical Center will host a Spanish-language support group for breast cancer survivors at 3 p.m. For more information call (201) 392-3180.

THURSDAY, MAY 18

MONTGOMERY — The Cancer Clinic will host a sleep disorder lecture at 12 noon. For more information call (908) 281-1461.

Mail or email your health calendar items to:

City News

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950 residents leave nursing homes

TRENTON—The Community Choice Counseling Program, initiated by Gov. Christine Whitman, has helped more than 950 nursing home residents return to the community and now the program has won high marks from those it has helped.

A survey of 107 Community Choice participants conducted by Rutgers Center for State Health Policy found 93% of those helped liked their current living situation better than the nursing home. Some 84% also said they could now do things that make their lives more enjoyable.

"Community Choice has been very successful in opening up options for seniors in nursing homes and those being discharged from hospitals," said Governor Whitman. "It's exciting to have confirmation that the program is working well and making New Jersey a better place for seniors to live with dignity and independence."

Community Choice is one of many senior initiatives included in the \$65 million package of senior programs the Governor has supported in the last two budget years.

"While for some nursing home care is the best option, many seniors do better with in-home or community-based services and the support of family and friends," said Health and Senior Services Commissioner Christine Grant. "This program gives seniors choices on how and where they want to live."

Community Choice is a one-on-one counseling, referral and assistance program. A team of 40 social workers and nurses go into nursing homes and hospitals in all 21 counties to discuss housing and care options with seniors and their families. Seniors who are able and want to relocate are then helped through the community in-home and community services and

Scholarships available to asthma athletes

KENILWORTH—The 16th annual "Will To Win" Asthma Athlete Scholarship program for high school athletes with asthma is under way.

Sponsored by Schering-KEY, a marketing unit of Schering Laboratories, the "Will To Win" program will grant \$35,000 in scholarships to 10 high school seniors who have become accomplished athletes despite the challenge of asthma. The top winner will receive a \$10,000 Gold Award. Four \$5,000 Silver Awards and five \$1,000 Bronze Awards will also be awarded.

Although asthma is on the rise, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases reports that 80 percent of deaths from asthma occur in urban areas with African Americans three to four times more likely than whites to be hospitalized for asthma, and

four to six times more likely to die from the disease.

"Clearly, asthma is an escalating inner-city problem," said Adrienne Lee, director of Key Respiratory Marketing at Schering-KEY. "One of our goals with the 'Will To Win' scholarship program is to reach urban youngsters with a positive message about succeeding despite the challenge of asthma."

Major factors believed to contribute to high inner-city asthma rates include elevated levels of indoor allergens, especially cockroach allergen, tobacco smoking by primary caretakers and high indoor levels of nitrogen dioxide, a respiratory irritant produced by inadequately vented stoves and heating appliances.

The purpose of Schering-KEY's annual program is to demonstrate to

America's five million young asthmatics that their condition, when properly treated and managed, need not limit their success. The scholarships also emphasize Schering-KEY's commitment to the concept of asthma co-management. In keeping with the guidelines of the National Institutes of Health, asthma co-management has proven to be an effective preventative through regular exercise, careful monitoring, and close coordination between doctor and patient.

Asthma scholarship winners excel in more than sports," said Dr. Raymond G. Slavin, director of the allergy and immunology division at St. Louis University Medical School in St. Louis, MO and Chairman of the Scholarship Judging Panel. "Winners are typically excellent students and are active in community

affairs. The Scholarship Program has been supported by some of America's prominent professional and Olympic asthmatic athletes. Recent Will To Win" spokespersons include football great Art Monk, baseball legend Bob Gibson, and tennis star Mary Joe Fernandez.

Schering Laboratories is the U.S. prescription pharmaceutical marketing arm of Schering-Plough Corporation, a research-based company engaged in the discovery, development, manufacturing and marketing of pharmaceutical products worldwide.

Scholarship applications and posters may be obtained by calling "The Will To Win" hotline at 1-800-588-7305. Applications can also be obtained at www.schoolasthma.com. The deadline for entries is May 15.

Asthma: A family affair

ELIZABETH—Are you the parent of a child with asthma? Do you have a child with asthma in your school or daycare program? Do you feel powerless during an asthma episode?

If so, you are invited to attend the "Family Asthma Program" co-sponsored by the American Lung Association of New Jersey and the West Minister Academy Parent Teacher Association (PTA).

This program is being pre-

"Family Asthma Program"
May 25
West Minister
Academy Elementary
School #5

Newark Beth Israel offering free breast cancer screening

NEWARK — Breast cancer is the most common cancer affecting women. Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, an affiliate of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System, is encouraging women in Newark and the surrounding communities to take advantage of a free breast cancer screening on Saturday, May 13 from 8 a.m. to noon. The screening will take place in the Fit On Center for Oncology and Blood Disorders at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. A physician or nurse practitioner will perform

Reduced-fee mammograms and free mammograms for those who qualify will be offered.

The breast examination and will also provide instruction to participants about how to perform a self-exam. Vouchers for reduced-fee mammograms and free mammograms for those who qualify will be offered.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) advises women between the ages of 20 and 39

to get a clinical breast examination

Regular exercise and healthy eating may reduce the chances of women getting breast cancer.

once every three years, and to perform a monthly breast self-exam, and women age 40 and over to have an annual mammogram and a monthly breast self-exam. The ACS also suggests that regular exercise and healthy eating may reduce the chances of women getting breast cancer.

Newark Beth Israel Medical Center is a 600 bed regional referral teaching hospital with specialized programs including heart and kidney transplantation, cardiac surgery, oncology, and maternal/child health services. An affiliate of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System, Newark Beth Israel is part of Children's Hospital of New Jersey and the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System.

To register for the program, call (973) 926-2673.

Sleep Awareness Week



Mangala Nadkarni, M.D., director of the Sleep Disorder Center at the New Jersey Neuroscience Institute at JFK Medical Center, consults with Kay Rahman, coordinator, and Albert J. Lewis, Jr., a sleep technician, during a noon presentation at the recent Sleep Disorder Center open house. The Sleep Disorder Center was established to help properly diagnose the

causes of sleep problems, including sleep apnea, insomnia and narcolepsy. Conducted to foster awareness for different sleep disorders and available treatment programs, the open house was held in recognition of Sleep Awareness Week, which occurred at the end of March. For more information on the Sleep Disorder Center, call (732) 321-7010.

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Valerie Torges-Martin

Published every Wednesday

City News takes a look at the health issues on the minds of African Americans in a special section titled

"Heartbeat."

Call (973) 642-4400

Davis and Coltrane back together again on new CD



The Miles Davis Quartet

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

Miles Davis and John Coltrane: The complete recordings 1958-1961. Vintage classic standards never die, and this is the result of the completion of the recently released 6-CD Super Deluxe Box set of the incomparable Miles Davis and John Coltrane. You want to talk about something good?

"So What," which Davis recorded on the "Kind of Blue



album is recognized as one of the most widely known compositions. Included in the box set are 18 previously unreleased tracks, which equal 90 minutes of new music. The set also features such tunes as "Round About Midnight," which Hollywood adopted as a title for a movie. You'll hear "Milestones," which has incredible drive and frisky riffs, along with "Someday My Prince Will Come."

Davis, indeed, was ahead of



Miles Davis

File photo

his time, and was an innovator in the world of Jazz. He hooked up

with the Billy Eckstine band in the summer of 1944 when they

A master blaster of a collection, the set, which also features Coltrane should be considered a collectors item for the jazz purist. After all, it has been said time and again that Coltrane revolutionized jazz playing notes that were unheard of. All this you will find on this compilation of mega hits.

came to his hometown of St. Louis Eckstine, who was short of a trumpeter, soon found one in Davis. Dizzy Gillespie who was playing with Eckstine at the time, it is said that he asked Miles if he had a union card and ushered him to the stage. This was a turning point in the career of Davis.

A master blaster of a collection, the set, which also features Coltrane should be considered a collectors item for the jazz purist. After all, it has been said time and again that Coltrane revolutionized jazz playing notes that were unheard of. All this you will find on this compilation of mega hits.

"For musicians," writes Kephra Burns ("Coltrane") was an angel agent of the zeitgeist and likened to the force of nature... an aural sun blazing in the bell of his tenor saxophone. These two giants have made music that will endure forever Miles and Coltrane — the best of jazz together

Milt Jackson tribute concert to be held at NJPAC



Milt Jackson

File photo

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center's FamilyTime series presents "Jazz Generations: A Tribute to Milt Jackson," a special performance dedicated to the career of the late, great vibraphonist. Scheduled to appear at this event are the Bobby Hutcherson Quartet, special guest artists Michael LeDonne (piano), Bob Cranshaw (bass), and Micky Roker (drums) and The Baby Legends.

The event takes place on May 13 at 7 p.m. in the Victoria Theater. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$9 for children (under 14), and may be purchased by telephone at 1-888-GO-NJPAC or at the NJPAC Box Office at One Center Street in downtown Newark. This event is presented as part of the Bell Atlantic Passport to Culture Series, Target Stores presenting sponsor, and is sponsored by WBGO Jazz 88.

Milt Jackson, a longtime resident of Teaneck, died in October 1999. He had been slated to appear as headliner of Jazz Generations, however, upon his passing, NJPAC, WBGO, and his many friends and colleagues agreed that the show should go on and be held as a tribute to his honor.

Music Reviews



Beverly You Came Along (Yah Yum/Elektra Records)

Jan B has held reign as the top artist at the Yam Yum label owned by Kenneth "Babyface" and Tracey E. Edmonds. But now the couple have another artist who can help develop the roster of talent signed to the label.

Beverly is a strong singer whose vocals are a blend of Deborah Cox's sultriness and Kelly Price's vocal power.

On her debut single, "You Came Along," it is a strong R&B introduction to her album, "Heart and Soul." The track is a nice, smooth selection that lets Beverly's vocals shine rather than drowning her out with too many accompaniments. Also on the single release, executive produced by Tracey Edmonds and her brother Michael McQuinn, are snippets of "Sugar Bear," a slow single about love lost, "Old Ways," a Toni Braxton like tune about the man she lost, and "Here."

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MUSIC NOTES

Al Green to write memoirs

R&B legend **Al Green** is preparing to write his memoirs in a book tentatively titled "Take Me To The River," which will be co-written by David Seay. Green is also busy promoting his latest album, "Greatest Gospel Hits," which Seay also wrote some of the liner notes for the project. Green, who started singing religious music in 1978, is known for his R&B hits like "Tired of Being Alone," "Let's Stay Together," and "Love & Happiness."

In addition to that, he has had a recurring role on "Alls McBeal," and will receive the key to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where Green is originally from.

Eve, Chili, among artists to bare all for "Allure"



Eve

File photo

Ruff Ryder First Lady Eve and **TLC's Chili** were among various artists to pose nude for Allure magazine's special skin issue, MTV Online recently reported.

"I have my own personal issues, but I like my body," Eve told the magazine. The issue focuses on how to look better naked. Chili is featured nude in a

white armchair, and told Allure, "I was never that comfortable exposing my body, changing in a locker room or even wearing a swimsuit. So this was a big step for me."

The issue will also feature pictures of **Jane Krakowski** (Ally McBeal), **Brittany Murphy** ("Clueless"), "Drop-Dead Gorgeous"), **Bai Ling** ("Wild West"), and **Kim Cattrall** (HBO's "Sex and the City").

Ginuwine to co-star in movie



Ginuwine

File photo

Singer **Ginuwine** will make his big screen debut in "Juwanne Mann," the upcoming comedy starring **Miguel Nunez**. "Juwanne Mann" is about a basketball player banned from the NBA for his past behavior, and turns his focus to the WNBA, dressing up as a woman. The movie then follows Nunez's attempt to keep his true identity under wraps.

Ginuwine will play a singer who is suspicious of Nunez's character. The film begins shooting in July.

Ginuwine, who recently dropped his management, Blackground Entertainment and publicity, is featured on The "Tomeo Must Die" soundtrack, singing "Simply Irresistible."

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"They Just Took My Son's Life"

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1990	100 Black Men of New Jersey (Milestone Award)	1994	Best Editor National Newspaper Publishers Association Annual Conference, Minneapolis	1988	Entrepreneur of the Year Black New Jersey Magazine Atlantic City
1996	Corporate/Business Recognition and Appreciation Award New Jersey State Convention of NAACP	1993	Best Feature Story National Newspaper Publishers Association Annual Conference Los Angeles, California	1989	Community Service Award Black United Front of New Jersey
1998	Media Appreciation Award Alpha Kappa Alpha Society, Inc. Newark, NJ	1992	Best News Story National Newspaper Publishers Association Annual Conference, Baltimore, Maryland	1987	Certificate of Appreciation Father-Son Business Leaders of America Plunkett High School
1998	Excellence in Service Reported NJ United Local International F & A M Masons	1990	Congressional Record Congressional Record M. Payne J. S. House of Representatives	1986	Special Recognition NJ Minority Business
1996	Man and Woman of the Year United Caribbean American Alliance	1993	Recognition for Support & Encouragement NJ United Minority Business Journalist	1988	Community Service Albany Park, Indiana NAACP
1997	Media Award for Outstanding Performance in National Minority Business Council New York, NY, Communication and the Minority Community	1992	Best News Story National Newspaper Publishers Association Annual Conference, Baltimore, Maryland	1986	Outstanding Business Plunkett—A City for All Seasons
1997	Achievement in Academics and Journalism Publishing North Jersey Moral Society	1991	Minority Business Advocate of the Year Minority Business Development Center Newark, NJ	1990	Journalistic Excellence, One Dedication Community Profs. Seventh Day Adventist Church, Plainfield, NJ
1997	Community Service Award Outstanding Service through Concerned Black Nurses of Newark, NJ Urban and Space Programs for Youth	1991	Best News Photo National Newspaper Publishers Association Annual Conference, Nassau, Bahamas	1984	Pride in Plunkett Plunkett Mayor Richard Taylor
1996	Community Service Award Urban League of Union County	1991	Founders Day Award Omega Psi Phi	1988	Recognition NJ State General Assembly Assemblywoman Angela Paxon

Billboard

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

WOODBRIDGE: The Barron Arts Center hosts a poetry event at 8 p.m. For more information, call (732) 634-0413.

THURSDAY, MAY 11

NEWARK: NJPAC presents the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (888) GO-NJPAC.

NEW YORK: The Jazz at Lincoln Center series presents "Jazz on Film: Alibi, Jump & Live" at 9 p.m. For more information, call (212) 721-6500.

SATURDAY, MAY 13

NEWARK: NJPAC presents "Jazz for Teens" at 12:30 P.M. For further information, call (973) 297-0597.

NEWARK: WBOG 98.3 FM presents "A Tribute to Mill Jackson," at NJPAC. 7:00 p.m. For further information, call (973) 624-8880, ext. 295.

THURSDAY, MAY 18

NEW BRUNSWICK: The NJ Symphony Orchestra sponsors "Resurrection" Symphony at 8 p.m. Call (973) 624-3713 for more information.

SATURDAY, MAY 20

PISCATAWAY: Circle Players of Piscataway presents "Arthur Miller: A View From The Bridges" at 8:30 p.m. For further information, call (732) 424-0354.

'Romeo & Juliet' meets 'He Got Game' in 'Love and Basketball'

By Martin C. Summers

Quincy McCall, a.k.a. Q (Omar Epps), and Monica Wright (Sanaa Lathan) are two star-crossed lovers who meet as eleven-year-old basketball phenoms in the making at a neighborhood hoop in suburban Los Angeles and in the end settle the score.

First-time feature filmmaker writer and director Gina Prince-Bythewood samples a bit from English lore: Monica and Q's window-courting is reminiscent of the teenage lovers who William Shakespeare wrote about — Romeo and Juliet. And there are some camera shots and a denouement that have co-producer Spike Lee's fingerprints all over it.

The story begins in the early 1980s as Monica's family moves next door to Q's family, which is headed by his idol dad (Den nis Haysbert) as he finishes his pro basketball career with the Los Angeles Clippers. His mom (Debbi Morgan) does the NBA wife thing and looks away at passes made at hubby. Monica's more traditional family has the breadwinner in banker pops (Harry J. Lennix) and a mother (Alfre Woodard) who just seems to bake bread. The family dynamics are subliminal with father and son who are close until the idolization phase ends, and a mother and daughter as two

incompatible souls, which hampers their bond.

The movie skips, dives and jumps and we land as the two stars finish their high school basketball careers. Lathan, although she never played basketball until capturing the role, walked and talked like she had been schooling ball players before Nike's were score.

...Lathan is the best thing that hits the screen. Previously seen as the tag along girlfriend in last year's, 'The Best Man,' she stands out in every scene.

around. Epps, on the other hand, plays his usual laid-back brother who is sinister and sincere all at the same time, but his skills with the rock won't impress you unless you like short guys with no left and moon shots.

And just to get this other point off my chest, why are the two who live in suburban Baldwin Hills going to school in South Central at Crenshaw High? Also, Monica seemed to be more of the woman than Q the man, but he gets the red carpet by college recruiters and she has to luck up

on a leftover scholarship to get some love. In that vein, the two meet circa 1981 and you hear Al Green's crowdfall Love and Happiness, which is fine by me any time you want to drop some Reverend Al, but that was recorded in the 1970s and the GAP Band's "Outstanding," a hit from the era depicted what would have been timely and accurate to the feminine focus of the movie.

As the two move on to play their freshman year at nearby USC, Monica struggles while Q remains the star. The movie haphazardly handles Q's quest to jump to the NBA as during this pre-Kevin Garnett era. In contrast, the women's court action seems genuine with the use of some current top flight female ball players.

Overall, the flick sticks to the dual formula of boy meets girl and overcoming the odds. For the most part, some of the plot twists are expected and others are dropped without being dealt with. But Lathan is the best thing that hits the screen. Previously seen as the tag along girlfriend in last year's, "The Best Man," she stands out in every scene. From the tomboy who sits like a dude even in a dress to displaying a tight body in shorts and sports bra, she is a movie star in the making.



Omar Epps (right) cuddles with Sanaa Lathan in New Line Cinema flick, "Love and Basketball." Photo by Sidney Baldwin

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater returns to NJPAC



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Courtesy of NJPAC

Newark Arts High School students to perform at NJPAC

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center FamilyTime Series presents Dance Jam on May 20 and May 21 at 2 p.m. in the Victoria Theater. This event will feature performances by American Youth Dance Company, Dance Innovations, and Newark Arts High School Dance Ensemble, three award-winning ensembles comprised of promising young dancers from throughout New Jersey.

The program performances are as follows: Newark Arts High School Dance Ensemble in "Planet Drum," choreographed by Kim Richardson; American Youth Dance Company in "Welcome to the Millennium," choreographed by Nancy King, Natalie King and Karyn Collins; "Dance Is..." choreographed by Collins and King; and Dance Innovations in two separate pieces, "Higher Ground," and "Balancing Aspirations." The three companies will join forces for a special program finale.

American Youth Dance Company, founded by artistic director King, is based at the King Centre for the Performing Arts in Wanaque. The group's performers are of various ages, but all share a love for dance and theater. The company has performed in concerts throughout New Jersey, across the United States and abroad. The group

and its members have averaged over 100 awards each year in state, regional, and international festivals. They present a full-length production of "The Nutcracker," annually and have been joined by guest artists from New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and Dance Theater of Harlem. Many of the company's members have gone on to professional careers on Broadway, at international festivals, and in ballet companies.

Newark Arts High School Dance Ensemble, led by artistic director Richardson, is comprised of juniors and seniors who experience high school as a training ground for a professional career in dance. Newark Arts High School, an academic school with emphasis on the Visual and Performing Arts, has been in existence for 30 years. Thanks to recent renovations, the school's dance department was able to initiate a full-time program in September of 1995. This June marks the second successful graduating class to graduate the school's dance department.

Tickets for the shows are \$18 for adults and \$9 for children and may be purchased by telephone at (888) GO-NJPAC, or at the NJPAC Box Office at One Center Street in downtown Newark.

NEWARK — The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, hailed as "the Rolls Royce of American Dance" by The Los Angeles Times, returns to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's Prudential Hall for four performances. The world-renowned Ailey company, NJPAC's principal resident affiliate, will perform four programs, each of which includes the full-length version of Alvin Ailey's classic *Revelations*, on Friday, May 12 at 8pm, Saturday, May 13 at 8pm and 8pm, and Sunday, May 14 at 3 p.m. This engagement is presented as part of the Aetna-US Healthcare International

Dance Series.

The program for May 12 includes Ron Brown's "Grace," Javole Willa Jo Zollar's "C Street B Avenue," and "Revelations" by Alvin Ailey. The program for May 13 includes: Judith Jamison's "Divining," Bill T. Jones's "Fever Swamp," John Butler's "After Eden," and "Revelations." The program on May 14 is a full production of works by Alvin Ailey.

The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, one of the world's most respected modern dance companies, was started in 1958 and led by Ailey until his death in 1989.

'The Sun and the Moon' every couple's nightmare on stage



Ervia Dechane Attwell

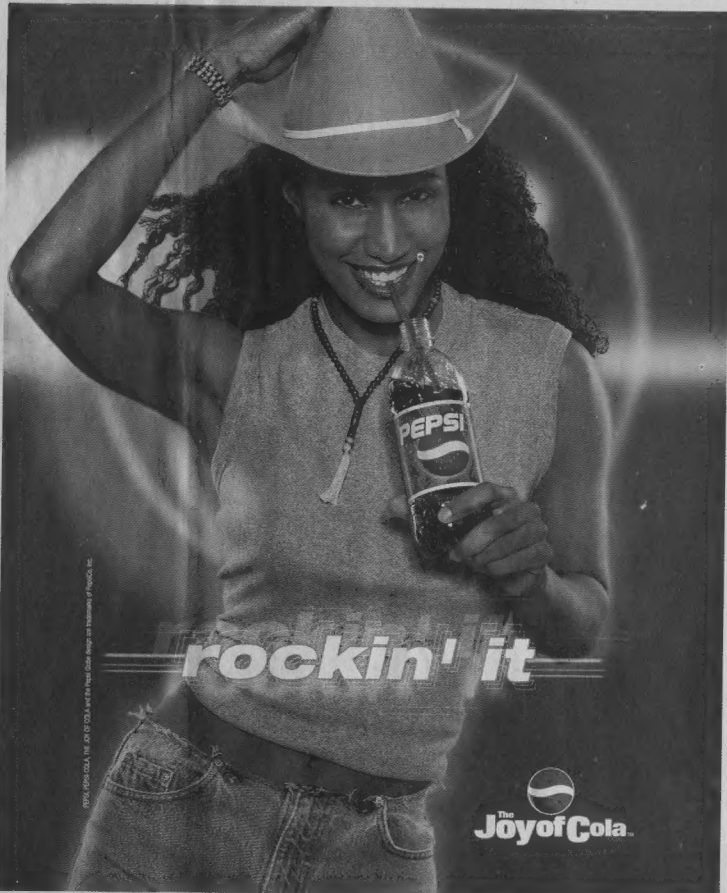
Courtesy of Double XXposure

NEW YORK CITY — Last call for May 13, the highly anticipated play "The Sun and the Moon," written by Gary Bolton and directed by Ervia Dechane Attwell.

"The Bronx backdrop, a married couple and a homeless woman creates a fierce love triangle that boils over and culminates into a turbulent ending," states director Ervia Attwell.

Tickets are priced at \$20 and can be purchased at the theater located at 40 Greene Avenue in Brooklyn or can be reserved at (718) 783-9794.

Passion, intrigue and tension pepper this dynamic ensemble of cast and characters, and combine in a catalytic reaction to produce a climatic conclusion.



CityStyle

At that jazz!



T.S. Monk

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

Jazz music is more than musical notes and lyrics — it's about the passion of the musicians who play and sing the music. And if any of you straight ahead jazz lovers out there have ever heard the sweet horn of Lee Morgan, you know this statement is true — jazz is more than musical notes and lyrics. Morgan blows a hard driving funky trumpet on the tune he coined "Cornbread" that dates back to the early '60s along with his unmistakable "The Sidewinder," tunes ahead of their time.

Joining forces with the legendary drummer Art Blakey, Morgan became a part of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers that launched many careers. The giants of Jazz often collaborated and teamed up with each other to bring forth the most amazing sound — America's original music — that you can imagine.

The king of Jazz, Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, whose legacy is insurmountable, led the way for a Lee Morgan, Miles Davis, Donald Byrd, Roy Hargrove and Marlon Jordan.

Duke Ellington, who has been dubbed the greatest composer to ever live, led the way for a Quincy Jones. When starting his own label Qwest, Jones looked at one of the greats, Milt Jackson, the legendary late vibraphonist to top his jazz roster.

Ray Sampson, a lover of straight ahead jazz, well caught in the mesmerizing grasp of Lee Morgan's horn, emphatically states, "He's mean. His music comes at you so hard, you have to get on board."

And there have been many who have emulated the jazz greats, like Arturo Sandoval, with his tribute "I Remember Clifford," referring to Clifford Brown. Jazz is pure music that



Duke Ellington

File photo

speaks from the hearts at its best, then you throw in a foot jazz singer and the rest is history.

The Queen Dinah Washington, Ella, and the incomparable Sassy Sarah paved the way for the Nancy and Cassandra Wilson's, Diana Reeves, Anita Baker, and even an Erykah Badu.

As the genre grows, it is becoming broader and more difficult to define, but the appeal of jazz music is obvious, with fusion and contemporary jazz spawning its evolution. Keyboardist Herbie Hancock, Miles Davis, the great saxophonist Grover Washington all started something very new that mutated into artists like Gerald Albright, Alexis Bugnon, Jonathan Butler, Pieces of a Dream, David Sandborn, and a host of other contemporary jazz artists.

Many jazz enthusiasts gravitate to one style or the other, but whether straight-ahead or contemporary, the artist will say it's strictly about the music. And no

matter what your preference is, all will agree jazz transcends boundaries and is a art form that's bound to live on!



Nancy Wilson

File photo



Betty Carter

File photo



Sarah Vaughn

File photo

WBGU, NJPAC to host 'Jazz for Teens'

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center and WBGU-Jazz 88.3 FM present Jazz for Teens, a showcase of up-and-coming musical talent, on Saturday, May 13 at 12:30pm in the Victoria Theater. This performance, under the musical direction of Don Braden, will focus primarily on the music of the legendary Dizzy Gillespie. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$7 for children (under 14) and may be purchased by telephone at 1888-GO-NJPAC (888-466-5722), or at the NJPAC Box Office at One Center Street in downtown Newark. Jazz for Teens is made possible by the support of First Union National Bank and is presented in collaboration with WBGU Jazz-88.3 FM Radio, the country's foremost traditional jazz radio station. This event is presented at NJPAC as part of the Bell Atlantic Passport to Culture Family Tune Series and is sponsored by Target Stores.

The NJPAC/WBGU Jazz 88



Alex Bugnon

File photo



Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald

File photo

Armstrong and Crosby relationship explored in Jazz at Lincoln Center

NEW YORK CITY — Jazz at Lincoln Center will produce "Jazz Talk: Bug and Pops — Remembrances of Bing Crosby & Louis Armstrong," led by the renowned jazz critic and author Gary Giddins, on May 23 at 7 p.m. in the Stanley H. Kaplan Penthouse, Rose Building, 165 65th Street, 10th Floor.

In this lecture, Giddins will discuss the close relationship between Bing and Pops that lasted from 1920s through the 1970s, the two artists' mutual influence and admiration, and their related roles in the conception of the popular American vocal style.

Tickets are \$10 and are available at the Alvin Tully Hall box office by calling Center-Charge at (212) 721-6500, or online at www.jazzatlincolncenter.org. Delta Air Lines is the official airline of Jazz at Lincoln Center.

This is the final Jazz Talk for the 1999-2000 season, and serves as a prelude to the "J6LC 100 Years of Armstrong," which officially begins on July 4 with a free LJOJ evening concert at Liberty State Park.



Pieces of a Dream

File photo

'The Jazz Age in Paris' comes to Bloomfield College

BLOOMFIELD — "The Jazz Age in Paris, 1914-1940," a traveling Smithsonian exhibition, will be on view at Bloomfield College's Westminster Art Gallery through June 11. Nearly 100 evocative images of artists, entertainers, posters and other printed memorabilia bring this sensational era of life. The exhibit is free and open to the public. The gallery is located on Franklin and Fremont Streets in Bloomfield.

Based on a larger exhibition of the same title, this small-format version was developed through a partnership between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Services (SITES) and the American Library Association (ALA).

As a beacon of personal artistic freedom, Paris, the "City of Light," lured many American musicians, artists, and writers in the 1920s and 1930s. In and around the legendary Parisian clubs of the day — Le Boeuf sur

la Toit, La Cigale, the Jockey Club, Casino de Paris, Le Grand Duc — the vibrant interplay in this community fostered new sounds and modern movements in the arts. Through images, quotations, and a 30-minute video, "The Jazz Age in Paris," tells the amazing tale of this transcultural cultural exploration and liberation.

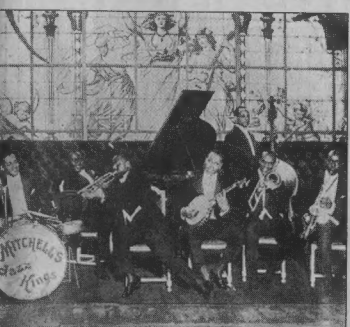
In the 1920s, Paris rebounded from World War I with frenetic jubilation and artistic creativity. Contributing to the energy were Americans, including many African-Americans who either served in the armed forces during the war and declined to return home or were drawn to the cordial racial and artistic climate of postwar Paris. Parisians, in turn, encouraged the talents of the new residents, especially their music. "The Jazz Age in Paris," which highlights the American expatriates who so richly contributed to modern culture,

places the early jazz movement in the context of broad social and historical forces.

From its beginning in Cake Walk and Ragtime to World War II, the exhibition showcases the luminaries of the era: Josephine Baker, Sidney Bechet, Hugh Panassie, Cole Porter, Man Ray, Django Reinhardt, Ada "Briktop" Smith, and others. Dance crazes inspired by jazz hits, such as the Lindy Hop, the Charleston, and the so-called "primitive" revues, are also surveyed.

"The Jazz Age in Paris, 1914-1940," is part of America's Jazz Heritage: A Partnership of the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund and the Smithsonian Institution.

The Westminster Art Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, from 14-30 p.m., Friday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and by appointment. For information, call (973) 748-9000 ext. 343.



Mitchell's Jazz Kings

Courtesy of Bloomfield College

Bring/mail ads to:
City News located at:
The Renaissance Towers
111 Mulberry St., Suite 1F
Newark, N.J. 07102

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973-642-5444
24 hours a day

NU TRANSIT PUBLIC NOTICE NEW JERSEY TRANSIT CORPORATION FINAL FY 1998 FEDERALLY-FUNDED PROGRAM UNDER THE INTERMODAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCY ACT OF 1991

The New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ Transit), under provisions of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, gave notice on November 25, 1997 of its intent to apply for Federal funds which were estimated to be available for the purposes of providing operating and capital assistance. NJ Transit also gave notice of its intent to apply for Federal assistance estimated to be available for transportation for senior citizens and persons with disabilities and for transportation in rural areas. A list of proposed projects was included, and an opportunity was given to obtain additional information, request a public hearing, and/or offer comments on the program and NJ Transit's performance.

The final FY 1998 Federal program is provided below:

Section 5307 Formula Operating and Capital Program (In Millions of Dollars)	
Project	Federal Funds
Operating assistance	4.28
Airlink-NJ Transit Joint Benefit Capital Program	25.00
Rail Support Facilities Improvements	2.20
Rail Rolling Stock Overhaul	5.19
Systemwide Track Rehabilitation	7.41
Bus Rolling Stock Overhaul	8.84
Hoboken Terminal/Viaduct Improvements	7.54
Newark Penn Station Improvements	1.98
Hamilton Transit Complex Construction	5.80
Market St. Bus Maintenance Facility Rehabilitation	1.50
Property Capital Leases	15.00
Newark City Subway Vehicle Base Facility Construction	3.50
Newark City Subway Infrastructure Improvements	3.50
Automated Passenger Counter System	1.06
Private Carrier Capital Improvements	1.04
Glenn Air Program - Travel Demand Management	0.28
Miscellaneous Bus Equipment	0.28
Rail Infrastructure Improvements Design	6.10
Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Line First Design/Construction	13.38
Information Services Upgrade	4.00
Rail Station High Level Platform Program - Middletown	4.30
Study and Development	0.22
Environmental Compliance Program	1.00
Total	129.88

Section 5308 Fixed Outlays Formula Program (In Millions of Dollars)	
Project	Federal Funds
Bridge/Tunnel Rehabilitation	4.40
Track Rehabilitation	4.85
Signals & Communication/Electric Traction Upgrades	22.80
Rail Support Facilities Improvements	8.70
Rail Rolling Stock Overhaul	29.40
Maintenance Equipment	3.00
Total	65.25

Section 5309 Discretionary Program (In Millions of Dollars)	
Project	Federal Funds
Secaucus Transfer Construction	27.00
Purchase Alternative Fuel Buses	5.86
Hudson-Bergen Light Rail System Final Design/Construction	59.80
Total	92.66

Section 5010 Transportation for Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Section 5011 Non-Used Area Transportation Program Section 5012 Surface Transportation Program-Newark Penn Station Improvements	
Project	Federal Funds
Secaucus Transfer Construction	27.00
Purchase Alternative Fuel Buses	5.86
Hudson-Bergen Light Rail System Final Design/Construction	59.80
Total	92.66

Jeffrey A. Varsch
Executive Director
New Jersey Transit Corporation

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT RFP ANNOUNCEMENT

New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Youth and Family Services/Notice of Availability of Funds - Child Protection Substance Abuse Initiative
Take notice that the Division of Youth and Family Services is requesting proposals from public or private (for-profit or not-for-profit) social service or substance abuse treatment agencies or consortia of such agencies to operate the existing statewide Child Protection Substance Abuse Initiative. Subsequent to substance abuse assessment, case management and support services on behalf of the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services. Notice of this will be published on or about May 15, 2000 in the New Jersey Register. Copies of the Request for Proposals may be obtained by contacting:

For: Peasack County, Bergen County, Morris County, Sussex County, Warren County, and Hudson County contact:
Stephen Jung, Regional Planner
Northern Regional Office
Division of Youth and Family Services
100 Hamilton Place
7th Floor, Room 310
Paterson, NJ 07650
(973) 977-4000

For: Essex County, Middlesex County, and Union County contact:
Irene Krawczyk, Regional Planner
Metropolitan Regional Office
Division of Youth and Family Services
153 Halsey Street
Newark, NJ 07102
(973) 844-4100

For: Ocean County, Somerset County, Hunterdon County, Monmouth County, and Mercer County contact:
Andrea VanDyke Regional Planner
DIFS Central Regional Office
Division of Youth and Family Services
Capital Center
50 East State Street, 5th Floor
PO Box 717
Trenton, NJ 08626-0717
(609) 777-2000

For: Atlantic County, Cape May County, Burlington County, Gloucester County, Cumberland County, Salem County, and Camden County contact:
Janet Laufenberg, Regional Planner
DIFS Southern Regional Office
Southern Regional Office
Division of Youth and Family Services
282 North White Horse Pike
PO Box 584
Hammonton, NJ 08037
(609) 567-0010

Copies of the Request for Proposals may also be obtained by attending the mandatory bidders' conference:

Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2000 at 10:00 a.m.
Time: 10:00 A.M.
Location: Dempster Fire Service Training Academy
250 Lawrenceville Station Road
Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08454
(908) 799-3245

\$179.16

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SALEM ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID TRASH REMOVAL

The Housing Authority of the City of Salem is receiving bids for trash removal for three (3) different sites. Instructions and specifications may be obtained at the Housing Authority office located at 205 Seventh Street, Salem, New Jersey, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday beginning Wednesday, May 3, 2000.

All bids must be received by the Housing Authority no later than Wednesday, May 17, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. The Authority reserves the right to waive any informality in any bid or bids, to reject any and all bids, and to accept such bid or bids and make such award as may be in the best interest of the Authority. All bids shall be clearly marked "Trash Removal" and submitted to the Housing Authority of the City of Salem, Attention: Ruth O. Gross, PhD, Executive Director, 205 Seventh Street, Salem, NJ 08079.

The Housing Authority is a Drug Free Workplace and an EOE.

\$82.75

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SALEM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY ATTORNEY

The Housing Authority of the City of Salem is seeking proposals from attorneys-at-law to serve as legal counsel to the Authority.
Information packages will be available to all interested parties at the Housing Authority Office. Proposals must be submitted to the address below and must be received no later than Wednesday, May 17, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. The Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informality in any bid or bids, to reject any and all bids, and to accept such bid or bids and make such award as may be in the best interest of the Authority.

The Housing Authority is a Drug Free Workplace and an EOE.
Ruth O. Gross, PhD, Executive Director
Housing Authority of the City of Salem
205 Seventh Street
Salem, NJ 08079
(856) 935-5022

\$65.21

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SALEM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FREE ACCOUNTING SERVICE

The Housing Authority of the City of Salem is seeking proposals for Free Accounting for its Low-Income Public Housing Program. Most Section 8 Program, Modernization Program, and Comprehensive Grant Program proposals must be received by June 1, 2000 - May 31, 2001. The following qualifications factors will be used to evaluate proposals.

Professional and technical experience as CPA/Fee Accountant, with a thorough knowledge of public contract law, NJ State Law and Federal Procurement Requirements 24 CFR 95.36, and federal and state compliance requirements.

Experience as Fee Accountant, with a minimum of 5 years with governmental authorities and agencies.

Experiences in HUD accounting and financial management procedures include budget, preparation, performance funding, fiscal closing and all procedures required under HUD regulations such as GAP, COP, MCO, Section 8 Reports and other state and federal programs.

Submittals should include evidence that the accounting firm, principals and staff are not delinquent, suspended or otherwise prohibited from professional practice by any federal, state or municipal agency.

Proposals must be submitted to the address below and must be received by Wednesday, May 17, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. The Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informality in any bid or bids, to reject any and all bids, and to accept such bid or bids and make such award as may be in the best interest of the Authority. The Housing Authority is a Drug Free Workplace and an EOE.

Ruth O. Gross, PhD, Executive Director
Housing Authority of the City of Salem
205 Seventh Street
Salem, NJ 08079
(856) 935-5022

\$101.05

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SALEM

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID EXTERMINATING SERVICES

The Housing Authority of the City of Salem is receiving bids for exterminating services for three (3) sites. Instructions and specifications may be obtained at the Housing Authority Office located at 205 Seventh Street, Salem, NJ.

All bids must be received by the Housing Authority of the City of Salem no later than Wednesday, May 17, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. The Authority reserves the right to waive any informality in any bid or bids, to reject any and all bids, and to accept such bid or bids and make such award as may be in the best interest of the Authority. All bids shall be clearly marked "Exterminating Services" and submitted to the Housing Authority of the City of Salem, Attention: Ruth O. Gross, PhD, Executive Director, 205 Seventh Street, Salem, NJ 08079.

The Housing Authority is a Drug Free Workplace and an EOE.

\$50.10

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, New Jersey for the 1999 Comprehensive Grant Program:

Recess Improvements Towers, 600 County Avenue
Knoll Heights, 700 County Avenue
New Automatic Entrance Doors and Card Entry System

Bids for the above will be received by the Housing Authority in its office located at 700 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey 07008 at 4:00 P.M. on May 20, 2000 and will be opened and read aloud at 7:00 P.M. at the Board of Commissioners' regularly scheduled meeting at The Elms located at 777 Fifth Street, on that date. A mandatory opening meeting is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. on May 17, 2000.

Instructions to Bidders, Bid Form, General Conditions, Supplementary Conditions, Division 1, Drawings, Specifications, and other Contract Documents will be on file during the business day, at the Housing Authority Office located at Knoll Heights, 700 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey. Copies thereof may be obtained upon paying a non-refundable deposit of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each complete set. Deposit checks shall be made payable to the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus.

All required bids, certifications and other forms required to be submitted by bidders are to be prepared on the proposal forms found in the bid form and the bid bond must be 10% of the bid total requirement.

All bonds used to satisfy the bid total requirement must be issued by surety companies licensed to issue such bonds in the State of New Jersey and be listed in the US Treasury Circular No. 570 (T-listed surety) and regardless of the method the bidder proposes to meet the bid total requirement, it must also produce with the Bid a Certificate of Surety written by a T-listed surety. Regularity in the US Treasury Circular No. 570 as a reinsurance company does not satisfy the foregoing requirements that the surety company be listed as approved as surety.

The successful bidder will also be required to produce 100% payment and performance bond written by a T-listed surety, prior to the Authority's issuance of a notice to proceed.

The Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any informality in the bids received and to accept any bid which is deemed to be in the best interest of the Authority. The Authority may also award one or more contracts to one or more bidders.

Bids will remain in force for a period of sixty (60) days after the date of the opening bidding.

By Order of: William P. Snyder-Executive Director

\$131.19

IN VITATION FOR BIDS

REVISED VERSION # 1

The Housing Authority of the Town of Boonton (BHA) is inviting sealed bids for the maintenance of its public housing property, equipment, and offices for a period of one year.

Bids will be received until 3:00 P.M. on May 30, 2000 at the BHA's office at 125 Chestnut Street, Boonton, NJ 07003 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids should be submitted in an original and two copies in a sealed envelope with the notation: BID MAINTENANCE SERVICES. Failed bids will not be accepted.

Bid documents may be obtained at the BHA's office or by calling (973) 335-0846. The bid documents contain complete information about the scope of services, bid guarantees, the form of the bid and related information. Cost of Bid Packets will be \$25.00 and is not refundable.

The BHA reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any informality in bidding.

No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the bid opening without the consent of the BHA.

Sherry L. Sims
Executive Director

\$59.39

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Executive Director

Executive Director,
Housing Authority of Plainfield,
Plainfield, NJ

The Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Executive Director in critical and be responsible for all aspects of operations including but not limited to: finance, property management, modernization and resident services. The Authority manages 482 low rent housing units and administers 888 Section 8 Vouchers. A candidate for Executive Director must have knowledge of federal, public and other housing programs, other affordable housing programs and community development. Proven program and personnel management skills required, leadership ability and a drive to get things done; collaborative outlook with other agencies. Must have a four-year college degree in public administration, social science or other appropriate program and five years experience in public administration, public finance, realty or similar professional employment. A Master's degree in an appropriate program may substitute for two years of that experience. The Executive Director reports to a seven-member Board of Commissioners and serves as a Secretary/Treasurer. For consideration, send a letter of interest with current resume and salary requirements to: Chairman, Housing Authority of Plainfield, 510 East Front Street, Plainfield, New Jersey 07060. Applications will be accepted until May 15, 2000.

Grant Specialist

Salary \$52,836.91 - \$72,893.19

Office of Grants Management and Development Director seeking highly motivated, collaborative individual to assist with activities that promote the effective planning, development and implementation of education grant programs. Masters degree and 5 years of experience in education administration and planning or related field required. Send resumes by May 19, 2000. Late applications will be considered only if the position is not filled.

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Page 88

Ponder This...

By Greg Moore

Paterson's coming of age

Throughout his much chronicled career, Paterson product Tim Thomas has been haunted by the dreaded P word (i.e. potential). A star dating back to elementary school, Tim Thomas' name first appeared on national recruiting lists after an impressive showing at five star basketball camp the summer after completing the eighth grade. Thomas possessed such a rare set of shooting, ball handling and passing skills for a player his size it was scary. A four year starter at Paterson Catholic High School, as a freshman, Thomas made an immediate impact by averaging 17.2 points, and 8.0 rebounds a game. The following year he averaged 21.7 points and 9.9 boards per game and led Paterson Catholic to a state championship.

Already regarded as the best player in New Jersey, Steve Keller of Jersey Cage Review indicated that he thought Thomas was the most explosive 6-8 sophomore he had ever seen. However, whether he was bored at the prep level, too good, or perhaps too lazy, Thomas' play struck many observers as very lackluster. At the time, a New York talent guru Tom Konechalski observed, "He's a terrific kid, but some people have a lot more fire in them than others. He's got a great deal of passion, but he's certainly a colossal talent. I don't know what he does at the next level and beyond, it depends on whether he can acquire the eye of the tiger."

After concluding his prep career with over 2,000 points, 1,200 rebounds and more than 500 blocks, Thomas took his talents and a slew of school awards and press clippings to Villanova.

Clearly, Thomas entered college with one foot on campus and the other in the NBA. Few expected Thomas to remain at Villanova past his freshman season, and to the surprise of those same few, he did not. During his single season at Villanova, the P word once again surfaced. Thomas played well, but did not dominate to the extent that his talents suggested he could. As a member of a senior-led team which included Jason Lawson, Chuck Kornegay and Alvin Williams, Thomas frequently deferred to these upperclassmen.

As the most talented player on the team, Thomas' excessive deference led in part to Villanova's underachievement season, and its first round loss to LIU during the 1997 NCAA tournament.

After becoming the first Wildcat freshman to declare for the NBA draft after only one season, Thomas was selected eighth overall by the New Jersey Nets in the 1997 draft. The Nets subsequently traded Thomas to the Philadelphia 76ers where he became an important contributor throughout his rookie year, and earned second team all-rookie honors. However, despite his success, onlookers, including 76er head coach Larry Brown, continued to question Thomas' work ethic.

Things eventually got so bad in Philly that Brown had Thomas traded to the Milwaukee Bucks. In Milwaukee, things began to change when Bucks head coach George Karl began to take a personal interest in Thomas' development. He promised Thomas that if he played aggressively, he would play. Period. For the first time in his basketball career, Thomas began playing with passion on a consistent basis. And this season, Thomas played a critical role on a Buck squad which took the Indiana Pacers to five games during the first round of the playoffs. Averaging 12 points and close to 4.2 boards a game off the bench during the season, in the playoffs, Thomas raised his game by scoring 15.4 points, grabbing 5 boards and dishing out 2 assists per game. During the second half of the season, Karl indicated that the primary reason for the team's success can be traced to Tim Thomas' aggressive play. For this year, Thomas' season may be over. However, for you fantasy league enthusiasts, circle this kid for next year's drafts, since it appears that Thomas is finally realizing the P-word which has long eluded him.

Historical society salutes the Negro Baseball League

NEWARK — The New Jersey Historical Society is proud to announce its exhibit, "Fride of Newark: Baseball's Bears and Eagles," an exploration of these two teams, their players, and the Newark of their time. The exhibition helped build on the excitement for opening day at the new Riverfront Baseball

Sat. from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. in the Society's galleries at 52 Park Place in Newark. The exhibit will run until the summer of 2001.

Using evocative video and sound effects as well as photographs, objects, vintage film, audio and involving hands-on activities, the exhibition will examine Newark's golden years in Newark. The exhibition will use Ruppert Stadium, the Ironbound baseball arena of its day, as an entrée into life in the city in the 1930s and '40s. During this time, the Eagles, Newark's National Negro League team, and the Bears, the city's International Minor League team, played in the stadium, but they did so on separate days and to distinctly different audiences.

Visitors to the exhibition will come to understand how significantly our "world" differs from a little more than fifty years ago, how Newark could have been the home to two nationally recognized teams, and how these two teams in many ways reflected the cultural quality of life in Newark, its neighborhoods and its institutions. The fascinating story of Effa Manley, who with her husband Abe owned the Newark Eagles, will illustrate the rare

role of women in the sport.

The hands-on authenticity of the exhibit is intriguing from the actual contracts of Newark Eagles players like Ray Dandridge, who made \$176 a month, and Max Manning who earned \$170 a month, amongst others are laminated and there for the viewing. There's a letter that dates back to April 1946 to Effa Manley from the New York Chapter of the NAACP, thanking her for allowing the organization to raise funds during the Eagles opening day game. The exhibit is enhanced by the large mural size photo of the Eagles, the Newark Bears and Newark Cubs, which was a team compiled of young black boys that date back to 1940.

The Honorary Exhibition Committee is being co-chaired by Rick Cerone, present owner of the Newark Bears, and William M. Freeman, President of Bell Atlantic. Members of the committee include past team members and community leaders such as Yogi Berra, past Newark Bears player who went on to New York Yankee fame; Monte Irvin and Max Manning, past Newark Eagles team players; and Jerry Esenberger, sports writer with "The Star Ledger."



Newark Bears' Hensley 'Ban Ban' Meulens

Stadium and the Bears' first full season in Newark. "Fride of Newark" is open to the public at no charge five days a week, Tue. through



James "Bo" Wallace a catcher with the Newark Eagles. File photo

"Bo" Wallace loved the Newark Eagles Glory Days

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

James "Bo" Wallace, who was a catcher for the famed Newark Eagles from 1948-1950 died on April 20, 2000 at his home in Elizabeth. He was 70 years old. In a candid interview that I had with Wallace in 1997, it didn't take much time to figure out how proud he was to have played in the Negro National League Baseball.

The Elizabeth native said, "I'm an old, retired baseball player who's now a star," after signing autographs at what was dubbed a "Negro League Reunion Show." Wallace, who

kept the history of the team and the league alive by making his travels speaking to children at various elementary schools in Elizabeth.

Like a young kid filled with glee, Wallace was most proud of being included and sitting at Shea Stadium on April 15, 1997, with President Clinton, Larry Doby, and Rachel Robinson on the 50th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color line. He cherished that moment, immensely.

A character with many stories to tell, Wallace's gravelled voice made you take note and pay attention, because he really knew how to deliver one.



Ray Dandridge

File photo



Leon Day

File photo

The day he spent at Shea in 1997 when the Mets celebrated Negro League Cap Day, was one of his better ones. It was on this day that the then Mets batting instructor Tom McCraw hugged Wallace and said: "It's because of you, man, that I can put food on the table for my family."

Wallace was a pioneer in black baseball, which paved the way for the abundance of black talent in the Majors today who command multi-million dollar contracts. Players like Wallace played for the love of the game for a \$150-to-\$200 a month. It made his day to be remembered for the role he played — a trailblazer. Indeed, he will be missed.

Linden JV Basketball team County Champs



The Linden High School Junior Varsity Basketball Team enjoyed many accomplishments during the 2000 season with a 20-0 record and winning the JV County Championship for the third consecutive year. Head Coach Monty Brooks has achieved the honor of coaching a team that has brought substantial recognition to the City of Linden.

Play Hard. Play Free.



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Sports Shorts



The Garden State High School and College and Men's Unlimited Sunday Double Header Wood Bat League now in its second season is registering full teams and individual players for its summer league, which starts May 25. All entered teams will get free entry into two of our nationally advertised New Jersey Wood Bat Tournaments. The league also includes a League all-star showcase game scheduled to be played in the St. Louis Cardinals "Single A" professional stadium at Shynolds Park. Over 300 Professional scouts will be notified, provided access to the team schedules and invited to attend the showcase game. For more information, please contact us by email at gsb2000@aol.com or call John at (732) 756-5506.

Introductory Gymnastics Course
The Monmouth County Park System invites youngsters ages 6-10 to "Introduction to Gymnastics" on Saturday, May 6-27 at the Shrewsbury Gymnastics School on Broad St. in Shrewsbury. Parents will be notified in advance with the exact class time. Students will be introduced to basic gymnastic events and the trampoline. The fee for the course is \$34, and registration is required. For more information or to register, call the Park System (732) 842-4400.

We're in a New-ark state of mind!

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